

Portfolio

£22,000 to be won

Today's Times Portfolio prizes total £22,000 - £20,000 in the weekly competition plus £2,000 in the daily.

Heseltine accused of Westland blackmail

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, has been accused of using bribery and blackmail, innuendo and slurs in the Westland helicopter rescue struggle.

Bright forecasts for economy

Border war spreads

Burkina Faso accused of breaking a ceasefire as the border war between the countries spread inland.

MPs' interests

MP's business and commercial consultancies have increased by 10 per cent in the past year.

Swazi anger

Swaziland accused South African troops of violating its border and threatening residents who they claimed were harbouring ANC members.

Trident farewell

British Airways' three remaining Trident 3s out of service on Tuesday, a few hours before they would have been rendered illegal by regulations.

Israeli warning

Israel has told Syria it can tolerate no longer the new anti-aircraft missile deployments in east Lebanon.

Gandhi's lead

Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, pointed to the future as the Congress party celebrated its centenary.

Chile protest

Hundreds of women demonstrated against Chile's military regime in Santiago, voicing the hope that 1986 would see a return to democratic rule.

Pollock century

Graeme Pollock, the South African cricketer, scored a century against the unofficial Australian team in Durban.

Table with 2 columns: Category and Value. Includes Home News, Overseas, Sports, Arts, Business, etc.

Palestinian link suspected as Israel vows revenge on 'beasts'

Carnage as terrorists strike at airports

Italian Minister of the Interior last night told his cabinet that 14 people had died in a terrorist attack on Rome airport at 9.10am local time.

By Our Foreign Staff

At least 17 people died and 100 were injured as gunmen firing wildly and hurling grenades attacked Israeli airline check-in counters at international airports in Rome and Vienna yesterday.

ON PAGE 4

PLO's image tarnished

The Abu Nidal group claimed responsibility for the Egyptian attack and yesterday a radio station in Malaga, Spain, received a telephone call from someone claiming that the attacks in Rome and Vienna were carried out by the "Abu Nidal Commando".

Investigators at the Rome airport believe that both attacks were organized by Abu Nidal, the Palestinian leader who has links with Syria and Libya and is a sworn enemy of Yasser Arafat.

Thatcher invited to Kabul

Mr Barak Karmal, leader of the Soviet-backed Afghanistan Government, has said that he is willing to go to London to discuss the future of his country.

Reagan address on Russian TV

President Reagan and Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader, are to address the people of each other's nations on New Year's Day.

Stabbed siege girl 'doing well'

Carlene Roberts, the girl aged 4 who was stabbed in the neck during a 29-hour siege in a council flat was "doing well" in a children's ward at Mount Vernon Hospital, west London, yesterday.

First big snowfall cheers Scots skiers

Snow and blizzards swept across northern and central Scotland yesterday, making driving difficult but providing cheer for the thousands of skiers expected at Highland resorts this weekend.

Leaders to exchange greetings

exchange addresses in January this year, in a letter to Mr Leonid Zamyatin, head of the Soviet Party information department. He never received an answer.

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Injured passengers sprawling on the floor of the Rome airport breakfast bar.

Vienna's morning of horror

From Richard Bassett Vienna

Three people were killed and about 40 injured in the terrorist attack at Vienna's Schwechat airport yesterday.

The attack occurred at 9.15am Central European Time, when three heavily armed terrorists rolled hand-grenades along the floor towards passengers queuing to check-in for the 10.45am El Al flight to Tel-Aviv.

At least three grenades exploded instantly killing Herr Ekhard Karner, a fifty-year-old Austrian civil servant travelling with his wife and child. Both mother and child are reported to be in a critical condition.

As the first explosions subsided, the terrorists started indiscriminate fire with automatic rifles, reported to have been Kalashnikovs. Austrian anti-terrorist units, known as "Cobra", which are permanently on duty near the check-in desks returned the terrorists' fire.

According to eye-witnesses the 100-yard long departure lounge was transformed into a battle field: screaming passengers running for cover while gunmen fired from behind abandoned pieces of luggage. It is not clear how many of the wounded were injured in this fierce cross-fire which lasted several minutes.

Despite a hail of automatic fire from Austrian policemen armed with modern Steyr-Daimler achine pistols, the terrorists were able to escape.

Continued on page 4, col 1

Machine guns and bombs kill 14 at Rome airport

From Peter Nichols, Rome

In a matter of seconds a suicide group of Arab terrorists reduced a section of the crowded international terminal at Rome's Leonardo da Vinci Airport at Fiumicino, to a scene of carnage yesterday morning.

The four attackers, armed with automatic weapons and hand grenades, struck at the furthest end from the main entrance of the terminal building, where passengers for an El Al flight for Tel Aviv and two TWA flights for Athens and New York were checking in or eating breakfast at the newly opened bar opposite the airline desks.

The terrorists began the attack at 9.10am local time by entering the building with the main stream of passengers and then throwing a bomb at the El Al desk.

At the same time, a second terrorist opened fire with a Kalashnikov machine gun in the direction of the bar. About six people were immediately killed and the terrorists then began to fire indiscriminately into the crowd.

A second bomb was thrown behind the TWA desk, which adjoins the El Al desk, and exploded inside a rubbish container. Meanwhile, Israeli security guards, Italian police and carabinieri had reacted immediately to the terrorists, and the indiscriminate shooting was transformed into a desperate gun battle which lasted several minutes.

Fourteen people, including three terrorists, were killed. The other terrorist was injured and arrested. About 60 other people were hurt, several of them seriously. They were taken to seven Rome hospitals.

The terrorists had another 11

bombs with them, which they had no time to use because of the swift response of the security forces.

The scene immediately after the gun battle was of frightening devastation. Bodies of dead and injured passengers who had attempted to flee for the exit when the shooting began were lying on top of each other.

Huge glass windows were destroyed and desks shattered by the powerful bombs and the hundred or so bullets fired.

US warning

Washington: The US Federal Aviation Administration said that it had warned airlines and airports last month to be prepared for increased terrorist attacks over Christmas. It gave no details of the source of the information.

during the brief but bloody encounter, which Signor Bettino Craxi, the Prime Minister, denounced as "a real slaughter of the innocents."

Two bodies, one of a man and the other of a middle aged woman with glasses, were lying in front of the TWA desk with two air tickets on the floor beside them. Many bodies were lying under the tables of the bar, some of them in pools of blood.

Survivors reached other parts of the airport. A man telephoning in a booth on the other side of the customs barrier suddenly saw blood drip out of his sleeve after a bullet penetrated a dividing wall and the side of the telephone cabin before striking him in the arm.

A woman working in a boutique near the scene described how passengers rushed into her shop in search of

refuge. She said she had watched a plainclothes policeman shoot a terrorist in the temple and that other police pulled out a terrorist trying to hide among the bodies.

All roads to the airport were closed by police immediately after the attack and a search was carried out after reports that there had been more terrorists involved and that at least one had managed to escape.

Police, soldiers and firemen hastily barricaded the whole section C of the terminal building with partitions and screens to prevent anyone entering or looking at the terrible scene until the investigators had completed their work.

Air traffic was blocked for four hours and up to a quarter of the space in the international terminal was made unusable, with the result that the airport was soon packed with travellers waiting for flights.

Those who had not heard of what had happened earlier in the morning were given graphic accounts by other passengers.

Once the airport was reopened shortly before 1 pm, notices about flight departures showed that delays were between three and four hours.

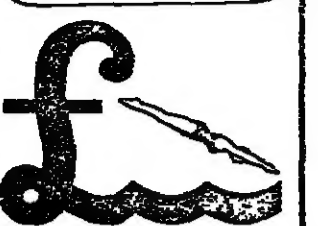
Motor traffic had been stopped to make way for police cars, ambulances and fire brigade lorries. Then a huge jam of cars built up taking people to the airport or trying to pick up passengers who had been due to arrive in the course of the morning.

Police insisted that passengers had to leave their cars some distance from the terminal and finish the journey on foot carrying all their baggage.

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INSIDE

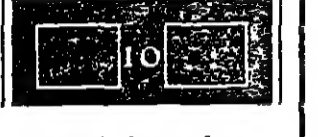


Losing pounds in luxury

Best of Britain's health farms

Up the Zambezi with a paddle

Canoeing through darkest Africa



Yes Minister in his prime

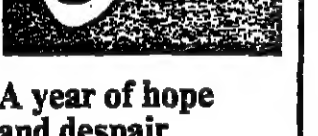
Paul Eddington on reaching No 10

Savings on the slide

Unit trusts that fell from favour

Family Money, pages 13-20

MONDAY



A year of hope and despair

The Times Review of 1985

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Afloat in eighty-six

Dreaming at the Boat Show

THE HIGHER YOU CLIMB, THE CLOSER TO PARADISE. Advertisement for India featuring a map and text about travel to India.

MPs' business links increase by 10% in year, Register shows

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

There has been a 10 per cent increase in MPs' business and commercial consultancies over the last year.

An analysis by *The Times* of the Commons Register of Members' Interests shows that MPs have picked up an extra 51 consultancies with outside businesses, while 19 have been lost, an increase of 32. At the beginning of the year, there were 310 registered consultancies.

A significant number of the new deals, under which MPs advise their client companies, are with banking and City firms, although two privatized companies have also taken on MPs to act as consultants.

Mr Patrick Jenkin, the former Secretary of State for the Environment, has been taken on by Arthur Andersen and Co, the management consultants; Sir Eldon Griffiths, Conservative MP for Bury St Edmunds, has become adviser to Samuel Montagu Bank; and Mr Nicholas Soames, Conservative MP for Crawley, is now adviser to the Sedgwick Group.

Mr Michael Portillo, who was elected Conservative MP for Enfield, Southgate a year ago, has become a consultant to Grieverson Grant, stockbrokers and to British Airways; Mr Michael Morris, Conservative MP for Northampton South, has become a consultant to Hill Samuel, Wood Mackenzie and Underwoods (Cash Chemists); Sir William Clark, Conservative MP for Croydon South, who already advises Commercial Union Assurance and Texaco, has also become an adviser to Tate and Lyle.

Mr Robert Atkins, Conservative MP for South Ribbles, who is a parliamentary consultant to Wang (UK), has also become parliamentary consultant to Royal Ordnance PLC; and Mr William Shelton, Conservative MP for Streatham, a director of Shelton Consultants, now lists Panasonic (UK) as a client company.

The *Times* diary has recently reported that Mr Ian Wrigglesworth, SDP MP for Stockton South, has become an adviser to Barclays Bank.

Television and cable interests appear to have attracted a number of Conservative MPs. Mr Cranley Oslow, chairman of the Conservative backbench 1922 committee, has deleted his consultancy with Rediffusion-Radio Systems, but he has joined the board of that company and has also become a director of Rediffusion plc. He was already a director of Argyll Group and consultant to Bristol Helicopters.

Sir Peter Blaker, Conservative MP for Blackpool South, has become chairman of Central Lancashire Television; Sir Paul Bryan, Conservative MP for Boothferry and a consultant to Granada Group, has become chairman of Croydon Cable Television; and Mr Simon Coombs, Conservative MP for Swindon, has become a director of Wyvern Television Ltd.

Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody, Labour MP for Crewe and Nantwich, has become a director of Dunwoody Computer Services.

The latest edition also shows the range of benefits sometimes on offer to MPs.

Mr Terry Dicks, Conservative MP for Hayes and Harlington, has registered the "loan of a car by Taylor Woodrow plc; Mr Winston Churchill, Conservative MP for Manchester Didsbury, has been presented with a Wang "office assistant"; Mr Paddy Ashdown, Liberal MP for Yeovil, has registered the "trial loan" of British Telecom equipment for three or four months; and Mrs Angela Rumbold, the new parliamentary under-secretary at the Department of the Environment, has declared the "gift of an atlas from British Airways".

More than 500,000 people are expected to attend the event's blend of fervent evangelism and highly complex technical organization are personified by its two chief coordinators, Mr Michael K. Clifford, a former musician who produced the anti-abortion television programme, *The Silent Screams*, and Mr Louis "Loo" Falcigno, who made his name as a considerable amount of money from organizing worldwide television broadcasts of two of Muhammad Ali's boxing contests.

Mr Clifford said earlier that the conference would be "bigger than Live Aid, bigger than the Olympics... it's a credit to the enthusiastic commitment of thousands and thousands of Christians."

He continued: "Organizationally and technically, nothing like this has ever been attempted before... But big isn't the point - souls saved is the point."

Mr Falcigno, reflected yesterday that handling Muhammad Ali fights had prepared him for this even larger organizational feat, as he and a team of assistants dealt by telephone, telex and satellite with the final preparations.

"A satellite dish has fallen over in Zimbabwe," he said, "solving problems like that is what we are having to do. We are going into places which have literally never seen television before."

Each day the conference will have a different theme.



A motorist ploughs through flood water yesterday at Easing, Surrey, where the Wey burst its banks after torrential rain over Christmas.

Evangelists crusade by satellite

By Gregory Neale

A Christian evangelist conference, believed by its organizers to be the largest of its kind ever held, linking more than 90 venues around the world by satellite television, begins today, centred on a building in London's dockland.

The Expto 85 conference is being organized by the California-based Campus Crusade for Christ. The crusade was founded in 1951 by a businessman, Mr William "Bill" Bright, to evangelize in American universities and colleges. It now has 16,000 full-time and associate staff throughout the world, and has since spawned specialist groups among athletes, doctors, business executives and others.

The conference is being held over the next four days, linked by satellite television, coordinated at the Limehouse television studio in London.

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Union considers eligibility curb to get round secret ballot law

By Donald MacIntyre, Labour Editor

The plan could lay the union open to legal challenge but advice given to it is understood to suggest that such a system might be held to conform with the Act. The move would mean that only those belonging to regional councils - membership of which varies between regions from 40 to just over 100 - would be eligible to run.

Another option being discussed by a working group which is due to report to the union congress next June is to allow the regional committees to nominate candidates. Such candidates would clearly have a better chance of succeeding than those who lacked regional committee endorsement.

No clear view has emerged on what should be done about regional secretaries who tend to play a dominant role on the executive. One option would be to keep them on but deprive them of their right to a vote, thus removing the need for them to be elected.

Mr John Edmonds, who takes over next week as the union's general secretary, said the union was very concerned to maintain its regionally-based structure. "A major difficulty we face is that the legislation as framed is not appropriate to a federal structure like ours."

The UCU will next week consider its next step after being notified that one of its Birmingham members has approached the Certification Officer for a ruling on whether the union is within its rights to run the May elections under the old branch system. The union's executive had previously decided not to change the rules unless the issue came to a head.

Although a number of options, including postponing the elections will be discussed it seems increasingly likely that the union will conform with the Act and run the elections by a mixture of postal and workplace ballots. The union is due to consider at its annual conference in May a proposal that there should be ballots before all industrial action, as the law now requires.

Such a decision would make the UCU another prime candidate for taking government money, particularly as the TUC conference in February is likely to take a clear decision to reverse its five-year boycott of state cash for ballots.

Fears over talks on EEC poll

By a Staff Reporter

Labour MEPs are alarmed that the party is to consider ending direct elections to the European Parliament.

Mr Leslie Hunkfield, who sits for Merseyside East, saw it as "a precursor of a much more serious attempt to restrict the activities of MEPs and their constituencies."

On Thursday, Mr George Foulkes, shadow spokesman on foreign affairs, said that some Labour MPs had asked if the cause of Europe might not be advanced if there were a return to the system by which Euro MEPs were nominated by parliamentary parties in the member countries.

Mr Hunkfield said yesterday that during the last European elections, many constituency parties had to fund their entire campaigns because party headquarters had seemed afraid of what they might say about coming out of the EEC.

The Labour Party received about £250,000 from European sources to fight that election, but it was used in the overall national campaign.

Mr Hunkfield, who is a leading member of the group dedicated to British withdrawal from the EEC, said: "The idea of reverting to indirect elections seems very much to be going in the direction of stopping MEPs continually reminding the party of our policy of withdrawal."

"In the not-too-distant future I can see some senior Labour Party leaders arguing in favour of proportional representation for elections so that candidates can be chosen centrally, and, therefore, be much more tightly controlled."

Some of those on the left of the party among the 12 Labour MEPs in Europe are clearly wary of any extension of patronage for the party leadership, and see the ideas floated by Mr Foulkes, or the use of proportional representation as in other EEC countries, offering better opportunities for that patronage.

Challenge to Ulster boycott call

The Lord Mayor of Belfast, Alderman John Carson, who is also an Official Unionist member of the Northern Ireland Assembly, is to challenge his own party and the Democratic Unionists over their joint call for the public to boycott charities which invite Northern Ireland Office ministers to their functions.

The joint working party running the Unionist campaign against the Anglo-Irish agreement called last week for such charities to be shunned, has since faced angry criticism from charities and voluntary organizations, all the main churches, other political parties and the Ulster public.

Alderman Carson called on the two Unionist parties to withdraw their boycott demand and enlarged on his criticisms of last week.

"It has been a very embarrassing move and I don't think it has done our cause, to oppose the Anglo-Irish agreement, one bit of good. I have had tremendous support for my earlier statement and I believe many members of my own party and the DUP feel the same way," he said.

Three-prong Owen attack on Tories

By John Winder

Dr David Owen, leader of the Social Democratic Party, called yesterday for a reversal of what he said was the appalling decline in manufacturing industry and the creation of a new consensus on the welfare state; the realities of inner city decay had also to be faced, he said in a three-fold message for 1986 published yesterday.

He used the message to attack the Government's "characteristic combination of incompetence and ineffectiveness" and said it was pursuing disappearing goals which had broken down.

Nothing showed the shallowness of the Government's commitment to the national interest more than its blatant attempt to purchase the next election out of the public purse.

Dr Owen did not exclude Labour from his strictures, saying that its irrelevance had deepened and added "disfranchisement and demoralization" to the national disagreements, it is dividing yet again as its leaders attempt to slide slyly toward electoral credibility while Labour constituencies consistently select left-wing candidates openly committed to precisely the programme rejected by the public in 1983.

Dr Owen said that the nation must be better governed in 1986 but would not be if Mrs Thatcher was concerned only to win the next election. The country could not afford to spend the next two years electioneering.

He said that the British people had always responded to good leadership. They needed to find the leaders, in politics, industry and trade unions with the guts and vision to face the facts of

national decline, the radicalism to challenge the failure of political institutions, and the patience to change attitudes to improve long-term economic performance.

Above all the sensitivity and determination to restore a sense of national cohesion and purpose was needed to tackle the deprivation, racial discrimination and inequalities which scarred the face of their nation.

The SDP and Liberals would concentrate on those issues in 1986, as well as laying the foundations for a fairer, more decent and more successful future by convincing the electorate of the vital need for electoral reform with proportional representation.

The Alliance parties are accelerating the process of putting a joint programme before the electorate which will culminate in a rally of members of both early in 1987, which will be asked to give its blessing to the joint programme of which only the title *Priorities for the Nineties* is settled so far.

The two party organizations hope to put final touches to the document in the coming months and to produce the whole document by the summer, in good time for the annual autumn conferences of the two parties. Defence may provide them with some difficulties in reaching an agreed line by then.

If there is no general election before the autumn of 1987, a joint conference of the two parties may be held, probably on the south coast, where the document would again be the centrepiece.

Police wait at bedside of shot siege man

By Richard Dowden

Police were last night waiting to interview Mr Errol Walker - the man who held a girl aged four hostage over Christmas - as he recovered in a London hospital from an operation to remove a bullet from his head.

A spokesman at the Hospital for Nervous Diseases in Holborn said that the condition of Mr Walker, was "satisfactory and improving steadily."

Mr Walker, aged 29, was shot by police when they stormed a flat in Poynter Court, Northolt, west London, on Boxing Day where he had held Carlene Roberts hostage for nearly 30 hours. The siege began when Carlene's mother, Miss Jackie Chares, staggered fatally stabbed from the flat on Christmas morning.

Yesterday Carlene was said to be doing well at the Mount Vernon Hospital, Northwood. She had been given stitches for a knife wound in her neck, suffered at the beginning of the siege, and for lacerations to her right arm, sustained as the siege ended. Her father was reported to be with her.

Police have defended their handling of the siege and the use of stun grenades in the storming. It is believed to be the first time they have been used by the police in mainland Britain. They were used by the Special Air Service during the storming of the Iranian Embassy in 1980.

A former police and army firearms instructor accused the police of waiting too long before entering the flat. Mr Peter Elliott, now managing director of Delta Firearms of Colchester, Essex, said that the stun grenades should have been thrown together and the doors and windows smashed immediately.

"A stun grenade is effective for just three seconds, you have got to move in that space of time before the subject recovers," Mr Elliott said. "... it was at least seven seconds before they responded."

"I have been in a room when a stun grenade is off and believe me, you don't know where you are, you think you are on another planet."

Mr Elliott also said the police were wearing the wrong sort of clothing and that the D11, Firearms Unit, was not trained to storm a house but to act as snipers. A spokesman for Scotland Yard denied this and said the unit was trained for this sort of crisis and that the role as snipers was secondary.

Mr Elliott said the local Conservative MP, said he had nothing but praise for the police.

"The objective was to save the life of the little girl and they achieved that objective," he said.

Mr Clive Soley, Labour spokesman on home affairs, said that the use of stun grenades with a child present was worrying.

The *Times* overseas selling prices: America \$28; Belgium 8.50; Canada 10.00; France 12.00; Germany 12.00; Greece 12.00; Hong Kong 12.00; India 12.00; Italy 12.00; Japan 12.00; Korea 12.00; Malaysia 12.00; Mexico 12.00; New Zealand 12.00; Norway 12.00; Portugal 12.00; Singapore 12.00; South Africa 12.00; Spain 12.00; Sweden 12.00; Switzerland 12.00; Taiwan 12.00; Thailand 12.00; The Netherlands 12.00; United Kingdom 12.00; USA 12.00; West Germany 12.00.

Royal Navy alarmed at dwindling merchant fleet

By Our Defence Correspondent

The Royal Navy has expressed "great concern" over the decline of the British merchant ship and fishing fleets. The comment is contained in the official Royal Navy *Broadsheet*, circulated every year to retired naval officers.

An unsigned article says that there are clear reasons for the decline of these fleets, but goes on: "The truth is that our trade and supplies of fish are largely being carried in or caught by foreign ships."

"From the Royal Navy's point of view this is unsatisfactory because we continue to require merchant shipping and capable crews support us in reinforcement and other military tasks."

"If the decline in the UK merchant fleet continues for several more years at the present rate it could become increasingly difficult to discharge our Nato obligations, at least in certain categories of vessel."

"It is of little consolation to know that many ships sailing around under flags of convenience are not necessarily British crewed and we are losing trained manpower."

This is one of the most forthright comments so far made by the Navy on the subject. Increasing ministerial concern that a problem may be developing has been reflected in the commissioning by the Ministry of Transport, in conjunction with the Ministry of Defence, of a study covering parts of the merchant fleet for which there is a defence need.

Move to put UDM on all joint bodies

By Our Labour Editor

The National Coal Board has served formal notice that it intends to reshape the industry's 38-year-old bargaining and consultative machinery with the clear intention of bringing the breakaway Union of Democratic Mineworkers (UDM) on to all national negotiating bodies.

The board has told all five recognized unions in the mining industry that they have until May to agree on a new constitution for the key joint bodies in the industry, including the Joint National Negotiating Committee which regulates wages and the Coal Industry National Consultative Council, whose discussions include pit closures and the size of the industry.

The move will be widely seen as more encouragement by the coal board for UDM, which claims to have more than 40,000 members or applications to join.

Although the UDM is already formally recognized by the board in Nottinghamshire and South Derbyshire, the latest action means that it will enjoy national negotiating rights for the first time.

The discussions which the board is seeking would fix the proportions of NUM and UDM members on the bodies and decide whether both would be represented on the same negotiating committee for miners of whether there would be two.

Although the move could be challenged by the NUM in the courts, the board takes the view that it is acting within the terms of the 1947 Coal Industry (Nationalization) Act.

Meanwhile, the UDM complained yesterday that the board's industrial relations department had allowed the NUM to send recruitment forces to recruit members and widows in Nottinghamshire, along with their fortnightly pension slips. Mr Roy Lusk, the UDM general secretary said that officials had been "inundated" by complaints from retired members worried that they could lose their pension rights if they failed to join the NUM. Pensioners were advised by UDM officials to burn the forms.

Industrial tribunals in Edinburgh have unanimously decided that four miners were unfairly dismissed during the year-long dispute by the National Coal Board and should be re-employed.

But another four miners who were among the first to bring cases before the tribunals were unsuccessful. They were found to have contributed to their dismissals.

End of an aviation era

Noisy Tridents retired after 21 years

By Edward Townsend

The Trident, the only all-British designed and produced three-engine jet airliner, will be finally retired by British Airways on Tuesday after almost 21 years of service.

Only three remain operational, Zulu Victor, Zulu Oscar and Zulu Uncle, from the original British fleet of more than 70.

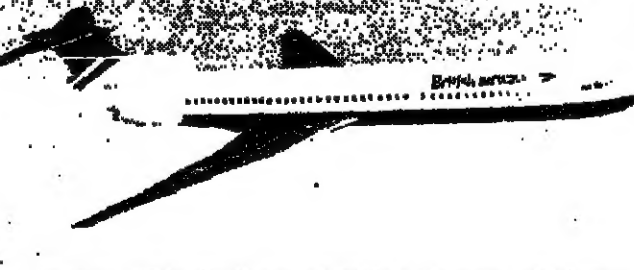
The last flight will be the evening shuttle on Tuesday from Manchester to Heathrow airport, where it is due at 7.10pm, five hours before the Trident's noisy engines become illegal.

To the millions of passengers and hundreds of pilots who have flown in the Trident, its departure will cause mixed feelings, but those living under its flight paths will not regret its passing.

At the turn of the year, the Trident's Rolls-Royce Spey engines will not conform with new Civil Aviation Authority regulations and the cost of making them quieter has become uneconomic.

While Tridents will continue to fly in China and Zaire - two of the customers for BA's younger aircraft - its departure from the skies over Britain will mark the end of an era.

Only the BAC 1-11 remains as evidence of the days when Britain maintained an airline industry without help from abroad. Today, it relies upon a



A Trident III in the livery of British Airways, which now operates three of the jets.

20 per cent stake in Airbus Industries for a presence among the big jet makers.

The Trident, originally the DH 121, was built by the Aircraft Manufacturing Company, formed by de Havilland, Fairey Aviation and Hunting Aircraft, at Hatfield in Hertfordshire.

The first order for the £1million 600mph jets came from British European Airways, which bought 24. The airline's chairman, Lord Douglas of Kirtleside, had headed a panel of judges which selected the name.

The first passenger flight was from London to Copenhagen on March 11, 1964, with 80 people on board. *The Times* reported that their reaction was "very favourable" because of the low noise level and roominess of the cabin. One of the last flights on Tuesday will be over the same route.

ments, which enabled landings when visibility was down to 50 yards. Smith's 10-year, £20 million research programme had put Britain five years ahead of world competition.

The Staines crash, the worst air disaster in Britain up to then, came after a 10-year period when the Trident had built up an impressive safety record. Mr Michael Heseltine, then Minister for Aerospace, ordered a public inquiry, which found that Trident Paga India's leading edge droop flaps had been withdrawn too soon after take-off.

Then, on September 10, 1976, in clear skies over Zagreb in northern Yugoslavia, a BA Trident and a Yugoslav DC9 collided, killing all 176 passengers and crew. It was the world's worst mid-air disaster.

Although the Trident was subsequently overshadowed by the success of the Boeing 727, a similar three-engine aircraft the de Havilland once alleged was a direct copy, it has remained a favourite among pilots.

Mr Geoff Brousson, a pilot writing in the *Journal of the British Airline Pilots Association*, added: "It was probably more of a pilot's aeroplane than a passenger's and was built in the best traditions of solid English construction."

Tridents have flown about 500 million miles and spent 1,595,000 hours in service.

European firms increase work offer to Westland

By Rodney Cowton

The European consortium yesterday improved its offer of assistance to Westland, the British helicopter manufacturer, with a firm guarantee to provide 1.5 million man-hours of subcontracted work over a three-year period from 1987.

That improvement was contained in a letter delivered to the offices of Westland and its financial advisers, Lazard Brothers, the merchant bank. It was made in response to criticisms by Westland's directors that the European consortium's previous offer of subcontracted work was less firm than the one million man-hours over three years guaranteed in the rival offer made by the American and Italian companies, Sikorsky and Fiat.

The letter was sent by Mr David Horne, of Lloyds Merchant Bank, acting on behalf of the European partners: GEC, British Aerospace, Messerschmitt-Bolkow-Blom, Aerospatiale and Agusta.

He said that the offer was conditional only on agreement on price and delivery, but not on any market factors such as sales of helicopters. That guaranteed element is part of the larger total of 3.3 million man-hours over five years which the Europeans had already offered.

The letter pointed out that, in addition to the 1.5 million man-hours, the Europeans offer would provide a further 300,000 direct hours as a result of the

Helicopters grounded

Nearly 200 of the 250 Gazelle helicopters in service with the Armed Forces have had to be grounded for examination after a crack was found in a weld in a rotor drive shaft.

The Gazelle is a utility five-seat helicopter which was built in Britain and France as a joint project by Aerospatiale and Westland.

The defect is understood to

European firms increase work offer to Westland

The letter re-affirmed that the European governments concerned had said that if Westland accepted the Sikorsky-Fiat offer they would wish to review Westland's participation in the NH90 and battlefield helicopter programmes.

Mr Horne said last night that the European guarantee of work was better than that of Sikorsky and Fiat not only because it was larger, but because it was not dependent on American Government approvals.

There has been some expectations that Sikorsky and its parent company, United Technologies of America, would improve its offer. However, Mr Peter Cadbury, of Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bank acting for them, said United Technologies would not be drawn into an auction.

Bad weather fails to deter sales shoppers as thousands join the queues

By Derek Harris

Winter clothing and footwear, the one range of items which did not sell heavily before Christmas because of the mild weather, were being scooped up by bargain hunters as the sales signs brought out shoppers in force again yesterday.

With most shops reporting pre-Christmas sales up by between 10 and 15 per cent on last year, shoppers are back some queuing overnight or longer, lured not only by special bargains but by wide-ranging reductions of up to half.

In Oxford Street, London most stores launched their sales yesterday. At Selfridges there was a queue of several thousand people, the longest seen by Mr Roy Stephens, the store's managing director, since he went to Selfridges in 1979.

Mr Kevin Mellish queued outside the store for 18 days to buy a television set, video recorder and video camera but when Selfridges discovered he planned to give them to the Rainier Foundation, a charity which helps young people in trouble, Mr Mellish got them for half price. The reduction would otherwise have been just over £200 on rather more than £2,000 worth of goods.

Mr Stephens said: "In sales we are two-thirds up on the same day last year. There are a lot of half-price bargains in men's wear, women's wear and particularly in fashion ranges. About half the sales being made are on credit cards."

Debenhams in Oxford Street opened at 8 am yesterday with a queue of about 500 having the chill-wind. Mr David Elliott, the store director, said: "Fashion wear is selling extraordinarily well there are a lot of items at half price. Men's wear is also in heavy demand."

Half-price Christmas cards and wrappings were also being snapped up, and china was popular, with a proportion of seconds bringing prices down to about half those usually charged for perfect goods.

Mr Elliott added: "We should be looking, judging from these heavy crowds, at something like a 20 to 25 per cent increase in turnover terms."

In the West Country the floods of the past few days were shrugged off by shoppers. At the Debenhams store in Bristol there was a queue of 300 and



Customers clamouring for bargains at Liberty in Regent Street, London, yesterday, as sales began all over the country (Photograph: Chris Harris)

Wine sales are buoyant, cream-based liqueurs are still in demand and port has been making a comeback. Cigar sales are up more than 15 per cent at Victoria Wine but this could reflect to an extent special promotions by the chain.

In Belfast, video recorders, microwave ovens and television sets were the most eagerly sought bargains when the new year sales began yesterday with a frantic spending spree.

Outside one big electrical shop in south Belfast people had queued since Christmas Eve in overnight temperatures which plunged below freezing point early yesterday. The management hired a leading folk group to entertain the queue while a complimentary breakfast was served before the doors opened at 9.30 am.

Mr Bobby Walsh, aged 18, who is unemployed, was at the head of the queue and bought a £349 video recorder for £9. A mother and daughter saved more than £500 on their joint purchases of a microwave oven, a conventional oven, a video recorder and a television set.

Sales in progress, back page

Police had to handcuff 'Hurricane' Higgins

Alex "Hurricane" Higgins, the former world snooker champion, had to be handcuffed by police after a disturbance at his home in which he threw a television set out of a window, a court at Macclesfield, Cheshire, was told yesterday.

Higgins, aged 36, who was accused of behaving in a manner likely to cause a breach of the peace last September 29, was also "extremely abusive" to the police, although he denied he was drunk.

Higgins of Wilmslow Road, Mottram St Andrew, near Macclesfield, agreed to be bound over to keep the peace for 12 months in the sum of £200.

Miss Carol Mundy, for the prosecution, said that Higgins's wife Lynn made a 999 call because of a disturbance at her home. "It seems there had been a heated argument between the couple."

"It was to such an extent that Higgins apparently threw a television set from an upstairs window out on to the lawn. Three windows in the front door were broken and a window in the back door as well. Items in the house were smashed and clothing strewn about", she said.

Higgins was physically and verbally aggressive towards the police, who spent half an hour trying to calm him.

"The histrionics got to such a pitch that Higgins made towards a kitchen drawer saying: 'That's it. There is only one way for Alex Higgins to end it.' Miss Mundy said.

"It took three police officers to restrain him. 'He went berserk as they put the handcuffs on', she said.

Mr Howard Bradshaw, for the defence, said: "I am asked to emphasize specifically that at no stage during the evening was Mr Higgins in any way intoxicated. And at no stage in the course of the arrest was he physically aggressive towards the arresting officers."

Higgins accepted the atmosphere at his home that evening. He made the complaint, Mr Bradshaw said.

Royal shoot prospects are bleak

The Duke of Edinburgh, who bagged 5,000 pheasants last year, faces the bleakest shooting season for years when he arrives at Sandringham today for a six-week holiday.

Shooting is to be restricted severely because of an acute shortage of pheasants. The wet spring killed off many chicks during the breeding season.

The Duke, who shoots with Prince Andrew and Prince Edward, is expected to limit sport to occasional days instead of the usual four days a week.

A Sandringham observer said: "He will probably shoot cock birds only. Shooting hens would just kill off stock. It looks pretty grim."

During the past 20 years the Royal Family has shot 150,000 pheasants at Sandringham. The Prince of Wales has turned his back on shooting since his marriage.

Thousands of people will greet the Queen, and other members of the Royal Family tomorrow when they attend morning service with estate workers in the parish church.

The Queen is to give a photo call and hopes that reporters will stay away afterwards from the 20,000-acre royal estate so that she can have a quiet holiday.

Extra police are being drafted in from all over Norfolk in a round-the-clock security guard on the 274-room Sandringham House.

Big rise forecast in drink-drive cases

The police campaign against drink-driving over Christmas met with variable success around the country. The early indications were that there would be a greater number of prosecutions this year, though the proportion of positive breath tests may be down somewhat.

Some counties reported fewer positive breath tests this year than in last year's more restricted campaign.

In Sussex police announced yesterday that the number of motorists breath-tested since the launch of this month's campaign had passed the 2,300 mark, and had resulted in 514 arrests. A further 1,284 drivers were just below the legal limit.

A police spokesman said: "The total number of drivers stopped is almost four times as many as last year when many officers were on duty during the coal strike." The 16 arrests in Sussex on Christmas Eve was double last year's tally.

Mr Roger Birch, the chief constable, said that two-thirds of all drivers tested had been drinking. "Despite all our warnings there is a hard core of drivers who still think they can drink and drive", he said.

Mr Birch, who is chairman of the traffic committee of the Association of Chief Police Officers, predicted that the number of drivers who were caught drinking and driving nationwide would show a marked increase.

In Avon and Somerset, 101 drivers were arrested under the drink-driving laws between December 15 and 23, compared with 114 in the same period last year, but yesterday police in the county had still to complete their statistics for the actual Christmas period.

In neighbouring Gloucestershire, 82 drivers faced prosecution after failing or refusing breath tests in the week up to the morning of Christmas Eve, but only three more cases were found over the three-day Christmas period.

In Norfolk there were only five positive breath tests on Christmas Eve, and just one more on Christmas Day. In South Wales there were 77 positive tests in the 10-day pre-Christmas period, compared with 90 in 1984.

Instant fine plan for TV fee dodgers

The Home Office is considering introducing on-the-spot fines for television licence dodgers to end evasion which costs the Treasury between £80 million and £85 million a year.

Government officials are increasingly worried by the scale of the evasion, now thought to involve 1.6 million people or 8 per cent of households which own a television set.

The losses are not felt directly by the BBC, which is guaranteed its licence fee income from the Consolidated Fund, and is made up by the Treasury, but the corporation believes it might receive a higher licence fee settlement if licence-dodging were reduced.

The Public Accounts Committee is understood to be dismayed by the level of fines imposed on licence dodgers, which often do not match the £58 licence fee because courts take into account an offender's ability to pay. The maximum fine is £400. The Home Office is researching the viability of a fixed fine system which would empower Post Office detector vans officials to issue fixed-penalty fines to anyone caught without a licence. They would be given a short time to pay and there would be an appeal to a magistrate.

An early decision on changes to the system seems unlikely, and the Home Office remains convinced that a fixed-penalty will remain more money from the licence-dodging public than it will cost to operate.

Slow start for data register

By Bill Johnstone, Technology Correspondent

Only 3,000 computer systems have been entered on the Data Protection Register - one per cent of the systems which must be registered before the deadline in May.

Mr Eric Howe, the registrar, has been trying to impress on companies that they will be breaking the law if they fail to register, and expect an avalanche of applications before the deadline.

About 300,000 computer systems in Britain should be registered by May 11. Where personal information on individuals is stored in a database, a declaration is required explaining the nature of the information and the purpose for which it is held. Companies failing to do so face an unlimited fine. Registration costs £22 for three years.

Under the terms of the Data Protection Act, which came into effect on November 11, users of systems containing personal data had six months in which to register. By next June the section of the Act concerning individual rights will take effect. Then, people will have the right to examine and correct information concerning them.

The registrar, based in Wilmslow, Cheshire, has been mainly encouraging businesses to register their systems. A number of reports this year, including one from the National Computing Centre, indicated that many computer owners who held personal information on their files believed wrongly that they were exempt from registering.

The centre based its conclusions on inquiries it had received from companies. The Act covers data from which a person can be identified through details including address, job and physical characteristics.

The registrar has distributed about 400,000 copies of guidelines on the Act.

Search for killer of two in gutted house

More than 100 detectives were involved in a double murder hunt yesterday after the shooting of Mr Richard Thomas, aged 58, a farmer, and his sister, Helen, aged 55.

The bodies were found in the charred ruins of their isolated mansion near Steynton, Milford Haven, Dyfed.

Police said that the house had been set on fire with paraffin after the shootings. The bodies were recovered on Monday but it was not until yesterday that police were certain a third person was involved.

Det. Chief Supt. David Davies, head of Dyfed Powys CID, said police were searching for one or more people. It had been a "vicious attack".

ITV advertising set for £1,000m record

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

Advertising revenues of independent television companies are booming, dispelling fears earlier this year of a financial crisis that could threaten the regional nature of commercial television.

Most analysts now expect ITV to have taken more than £1,000 million in advertising during 1985, a new record made more remarkable by the industry's poor performance during the spring and summer. The key to the record is commercial television's strong sales during the autumn when the volume of advertising showed increases well above the rate of inflation.

Advertising agencies believe that ITV and Channel 4's takings will be more than £980 million, an increase of more than 7 per cent on last year, which, with TV-am's revenues, will take commercial television over £1,000 million for the first time.

Ironically, the record revenues came at a time when ITV has been losing viewers to the newly-strengthened schedules of the BBC, though it retains an overall audience lead.

The rise in advertising volumes above inflation will also strengthen the arguments of those who are trying to persuade the Peacock Committee to vote for commercials on the BBC. The corporation and the commercial companies claim that there is insufficient advertising to split between ITV and BBC.

Aerial survey cuts fuel bill

An aerial infra-red survey, costing £5,500, of Austin Rover's 375-acre plant at Longbridge, Birmingham, to reveal heat loss had saved the company millions of pounds.

Eighty per cent of the heat loss shown on the photographs has now been stemmed. The energy cost of producing each car is now less than £75, compared to £143 in 1980, and fuel bills have dropped from £44 million to £35 million, despite increased production.

Drugs firm sent for trial

The case of a drugs firm and its medical director accused of issuing a misleading advertisement is to be heard at the Central Criminal Court, magistrates at Uxbridge, west London, decided yesterday.

The summonses, relating to the arthritis drug surgam, have been brought against Roussel Laboratories, of Broadwater Park, Denham, Buckinghamshire and Dr Christopher Good, of Three Stacks, Spade Oak Road, Bourne, End, Buckinghamshire.

Fare changes by Dan-Air

Dan-Air is increasing economy fares on internal flights by 5 per cent but introducing special offers for passengers who wait until the day before travelling to book Heathrow to Inverness on this basis will cost £48 one way and Gatwick to Belfast and to Aberdeen £45.

The cost of some low-cost advanced passenger excursion flights (Apex) on internal routes is being further reduced by up to £6 on return fares.

Murder charges

Lee John Rowlands, aged 26, of Skekmore, Llanelli, was remanded in custody for seven days by magistrates at Ormskirk yesterday when he was charged with the murders of Mrs Tina Rowlands, aged 26, his estranged wife, and Mr Robert Lee, aged 17, both of Skekmore-dale.

Revolution in house buying: 2

Halley's Comet, which to observers in the northern hemisphere has proved a disappointingly damp squib, is firing nations on the bottom of a world with high hopes of a tourist boom.

From Argentina to New Zealand, South Africa to Chile, countries of the southern hemisphere are trying to attract visitors, each claiming that it has the clearest skies and the best conditions for celestial gazing. Astronomers predict that the best sightings will be made in southern skies during March and April.

Rio de Janeiro has launched a vigorous campaign to attract Halley-watchers to Copacabana beach and Sugar Loaf mountain, and is already selling "I saw Halley's Comet in Rio" tee-shirts. Argentina is promoting four-day trips to an observatory at Barreal, a small town in the Andean foothills. Hotels in a remote desert region of Chile have taken 600 bookings from amateur astronomers.

New Zealand is promoting itself as a prime location with unpolluted skies, and the tourist industry there is expecting at least 20,000 stargazers, mainly from the United States and Japan. A London travel agent is offering Halley holidays to New Zealand by Concorde, at £2,900 for two weeks, including a chance to see the comet from the supersonic aircraft's tiny windows at an altitude of 59,000 feet.

Thousands of visitors are expected at the remote Australian town of Coonabarabran, where Japanese astronomers have built an observation centre with three telescopes and computer equipment.

Weeks of cloudy skies have turned the comet's visit to the skies of western Europe into a considerable non-event, and those who have seen it have been disappointed that it is not much bigger.

Astronomers say that this is an unfavourable visit which compares poorly with the sightings of 1910, when the comet was much closer and when, unlike this time, it did not disappear behind the sun.

But with a change in the weather over much of Britain during the last 48 hours, and the return of clear, cold skies, there is a sporting chance of a sighting between now and January 14, when it will have all but disappeared to New Zealand. It is to be found at an altitude of about 18 degrees in the south-western sky, slightly below and to the right of the great square of Pegasus.

Pressure on traditional estate agencies

There was ill-disguised delight from estate agents when Woolworths last month ended the experiment of having property shops within 38 of its stores.

Mr Robin Cooper, president of the National Association of Estate Agents, explained that house buyers were given to expect a service that was never in prospect from the start. The whole approach, not just the charges, was totally unrealistic.

He said: "Woolworths and numerous other property shops claim to offer an estate agency service, at ridiculous fees, for which they can certainly not offer a full estate agency service. Some of them will be lucky if they cover the rates and rent for the premises."

Mr Godfrey Winterston, sales director of the agents, Fox and Sons, predicted the demise of property shops. "The general public are looking for personal service, and the business of estate agency is far more sophisticated than many people realize."

Debenhams deny Mr Cooper's claims, and report a successful year for their nine HomeCentres, with a record of nearly 60 per cent successful sales of the 3,580 properties on their books.

Mr Duncan Christie-Miller, managing director of Debenhams HomeCentres, expects a further six or seven to open next year. The £95 flat fee charged when the shops opened last year has now increased to £285, which includes conveyancing.

Not all the centres are profitable, although Harrow and Guildford are doing very well. Bristol by contrast has so far proved disappointing. Mr Christie-Miller believes that the fully effective HomeCentres need a Money Centre giving a full range of financial services and a conveyancing service - a comprehensive one-stop package.

Debenhams have panels of solicitors available at each of their centres, and it is hoped that in future each will have its Money Centre, on the lines of that operating in London.

As the world of estate agency expands, so solicitors are beginning to take more interest, and that in turn is worrying the traditional estate agents.

Solicitors' Property Centres have opened in Berwick-on-Tweed, Wrexham and Crawley, Sussex, selling property within the guidelines laid down by the Law Society, and quoting a comprehensive fee for the sale and conveyancing work.

At Crawley, the solicitors involved were boycotted by local estate agents as soon as the plan for the centre became known, a clear indication of their concern. With the Homebuyers Group, mentioned in the previous article, solicitors are without doubt prepared to compete for estate agents' business just as others are eager to offer conveyancing.

What is to be done is one-stop shopping, the provision of a comprehensive service for house sales.

In a memorandum to the Lord Chancellor, the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors argued that surveyors and estate agents should be allowed to offer a comprehensive house-buying package of estate agency and conveyancing.

It believes, however, that estate agents should not act as conveyancers. Rather it should take into partnership, or employ, licensed conveyancers or solicitors.

The argument in favour of a comprehensive package is challenged by Mr David Perkins, a past president of the National Association of Estate Agents (a body representing estate agents who are not qualified surveyors or valuers). He believes that it leads to conflicting obligations, and says that there must be strict professional demarcation.

He is convinced that distinct separation between conveyancing and estate agency is essential to protect the consumer. He adds: "It follows that it would be totally inappropriate for any third party organization - a bank or a building society, an insurance company or whatever - to be permitted to offer either a conveyancing or an estate agency operation, or worst of all, both together."

The Building Societies Bill gives societies the right to act as estate agents and surveyors, but only to a subsidiary company.

Meanwhile Black Horse Agencies, the Lloyds Bank subsidiary, the largest agency company in the UK, has just been expanded yet again. Its long term aim is to cover the country, and it is likely that during the next few years this pattern will be followed by other firms.

It can only be hoped that in all these changes, the customer is not forgotten.

Concluded

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Leaders remembered

Gandhi directs the way ahead for India amid centenary nostalgia

From Michael Hamlyn, Bombay

The Indian National Congress Party, to which Mr Rajiv Gandhi's Congress (I) claims to be the heir, yesterday began its centenary celebrations in a small open space in the heart of the city where Mahatma Gandhi first told the British: "Quit India."

The field, officially called Gowalia Tank, and renamed Gandhi Nagar (Gandhi Town) for this occasion, is still best known as Kranti Maidan ("The Field of the Revolution"). The Quit India campaign, which began in 1942, just as Britain's wartime fortunes were at their lowest, is widely celebrated here as the final struggle which drove out the imperialists and certainly seems to be better remembered than the real foundation of the Congress movement, which, like Calcutta, Madras, Bombay and Delhi, was a brainchild of the British.

One hundred years ago today, 72 of the leaders of the Western-educated elite of India, met in Bombay, having been summoned by Mr Allan Octavian Hume, a retired civil servant, who urged them to take their political affairs into their own hands and lead India to freedom.

Congress is now remembering particular leaders of the movement, the Mahatma, Pandit Nehru and other chief leaders of the freedom struggle. They are giving special notice to Congress leaders from Bombay, particularly Dadabhai Naoroji and Pherozeshah Mehta.

But much of the emotion and nostalgia is for Mrs Indira Gandhi, assassinated 14 months ago. The last Congress plenary session was held in 1983 in Calcutta, and Mrs Gandhi was very much in command. Her son was welcomed to Calcutta as "the hope of the future", and the session was his public debut in prime-ministerial politics.

As he arrived in Bombay yesterday, his photograph outnumbered those of his mother. It was draped round every traffic roundabout, on great banners from high buildings; built into road bridges; and graced triumphal arches.

Mr Gandhi spoke at Kranti Maidan of the loss the nation had suffered with the death of Mrs Gandhi, and the meeting stood in silence for two minutes. He also spoke of the importance of technology and science to the future of India.

It is clear that the centenary celebrations are not simply to be commemorations.

But nostalgia was much in evidence, shown by the presence of two men, aged 97, who had flown from abroad. Lord Fenner Brockway, the down of the British anti-colonialist Labour movement, and Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, known as Badshah Khan, the Emperor, or more appropriately the Frontier Gandhi, who was brought here on a special flight from Pakistan.

It is estimated that more than 100,000 congressmen, important and insignificant, have come to Bombay for the occasion.



Chilean riot police, one holding tear gas canisters, arresting women demonstrating against the military regime in Santiago

End of oil boom

Feeling the pinch as the recession bites

From A Correspondent, Bahrain

With the passing of the oil boom years of the 1970s, the Gulf states are being forced to grapple with sharply declining revenues and rising deficits. Budgets are being cut, development projects delayed and foreign workers sent home by the thousands.

"We are in a period of painful readjustment," an economist here said. "There will be dislocations in government, in banking, in business until spending is brought in line or oil prices recover. And no one expects that before the end of the decade."

The most noticeable effect of the Gulf recession has been the exodus of foreign workers, especially Asians, drawn to the region by construction and other jobs requiring heavy manual labour.

Western diplomats see this partly as necessity and partly an effort to cushion the impact on Gulf nationals, who include heavy concentrations of Shia Muslims who could be open to the fundamentalist entreaties of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini. "The last thing the Saudis or the Kuwaitis or the Bahrainis can risk is discontent that would provide fertile ground for Iran to work in," said one British diplomat.

The signs of recession are most apparent in Saudi Arabia, the most oil-rich nation. Earlier this year its oil production fell to a 20-year low of two million barrels a day. Although now, with the help of discount sales, up to about four million, Saudi production is less than half of its 1981 figure.

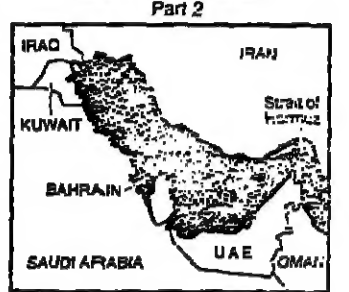
With revenues on the decline, the Saudis have slashed the Kingdom's budget. Expenditure in 1985-86 is projected at 200 billion riyals, a third less than the spending peak of 1981-82.

At least four important refinery projects have been shelved, including two joint-venture lubricant plants planned with Mobil and Shell. The state-owned Aramco, the region's largest single employer, has cut 7,000 jobs and plans to lose another 7,000 by the end of next year.

Other countries near by are also feeling the pinch. In Bahrain, three of the "off-shore" banks set up to help to recycle petrodollars have closed, and others have cut staffs sharply.

Kuwait, still trying to resolve the massive debts left by the collapse of its stock market three years ago, has had to prop up several banks and reorganize a frozen bankrupt industries. The United Arab

PROBLEMS IN THE GULF



Emirates has reported its fourth budget deficit in as many years.

In an effort to bolster revenues, Opec ministers decided this month to fight for a greater share of the world oil market.

Ironically, this has meant lower prices for Gulf exporters, and notably for Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the UAE and Qatar. Mr Youssef Shihawi, Bahraini Minister of Development and Industry, estimates that the recent fall in prices is costing these four nations \$15 million a day in revenues.

Concluded

Pakistan prepares for democracy

From Hasan Akhtar, Islamabad

Mr Muhammad Khan Junejo, the Prime Minister of Pakistan, held a special Cabinet meeting yesterday, with all four provincial chief ministers attending by special invitation, to assess the political situation in the country. He is to assume full control of state affairs when martial law is lifted next week.

President Zia, who has ruled since July 1977 as chief martial law administrator, has decided to restore civil government under the amended constitution. The precise date of announcement revolving martial law is closed in secrecy.

It is not clear whether General Zia and his Prime Minister would restore the constitution in its entirety or keep in suspension the provisions relating to fundamental rights. Nor is it clear whether they would enforce the state of emergency to keep the Opposition in check, at least during the early stages of the transfer of power.

General Zia who was elected President in a referendum a year ago, may retain his military command as chief of the Army even after the lifting of martial law, although four military governors may be replaced or retired from the active list if permitted to continue in office.

The country's Parliament was elected on the basis of non-political elections and Mr Junejo was elected Prime Minister on a non-partisan basis. There are, however, indications that after the lifting of martial law, political activity will be revived.

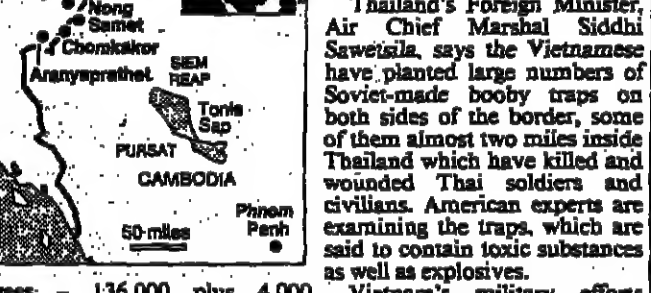
Thai border tension

Dry season brings fear of Viet attack

From Neil Kelly, Refugee Site Two, Tr Phraya, Thailand

Now that the red dust of the dry season fills the air along the Thai-Cambodian border, 230,000 Cambodian refugees are packing up their meagre possessions ready yet again to flee Vietnamese guns. Some have been on the move since 1975, when the communists won the war in Cambodia.

Site Two, less than two miles from the border, is the biggest settlement of Cambodian refugees.



Thailand's Foreign Minister, Air Chief Marshal Siddhi Sawatsita, says the Vietnamese have planted large numbers of Soviet-made booby traps on both sides of the border, some of them almost two miles inside Thailand which have killed and wounded Thai soldiers and civilians. American experts are examining the traps, which are said to contain toxic substances as well as explosives.

Vietnam's military efforts against the rebel guerrillas appear to be aimed at halting determined attacks by Khmer Rouge units around the great inland lake, Tonle Sap, and in the vicinity of Phnom Penh.

Although most Thais do not expect a big border battle immediately they are conducting day and night exercises involving the Army, Air Force and local defence volunteers.

These are designed in part to dispel the doubts of some friendly governments about Thailand's ability and will to deal with a serious Vietnamese attack.

Women sing 'Ode to joy' in protest

From A Correspondent, Santiago

Singing Beethoven's "Ode to Joy" and chanting "1986 belongs to us", about 500 Santiago women celebrated the arrival of the new year early by demonstrating against Chile's 12-year military regime.

Holding up enormous red and white ribbons about 100ft long, the women gathered in front of the country's main cathedral in the Plaza de Armas on Thursday to voice their hope that 1986 will be the year that democratic rule returns to Chile.

Hundreds of passers-by gathered round as the women sang songs, chanted and listened to speeches. Many carried bags of dried food and toys which were collected on behalf of the soup kitchens organized in Santiago's poor areas.

The demonstration appears to have caught the police unawares, but within minutes several busloads of policemen arrived and began to break up the crowd which had gathered round the women.

Police used teargas to clear the square, but a hardy group of women sheltered in the doors of the cathedral. As soon as the police moved away, the women chanted: "Let's go, Chile. Chile is hungry."

Passengers by jeered and whistled as police arrested at least six of the organizers, two of them journalists. Dr Haydee Lopez, a member of the executive of Chile's influential College of Physicians, was among those arrested.

Colleagues were particularly concerned about Señora Monica Gonzalez, a journalist, who has written a series of articles about the junta's alleged systematic use of torture and murder against its political opponents. She recently filed a writ of *habeas corpus* in the courts, after receiving death threats, which even specified the exact hour she would be killed.

Dr Fanny Pollaro, a psychiatrist and one of the left-wing Popular Democratic Movement, was also arrested. She was twice exiled to remote areas of Chile in the past year.

Swaziland claims violation of border

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Swaziland has accused South African troops of violating its south-eastern border during the Christmas holiday and of threatening local residents with attack if they do not rid the area of members of the outlawed African National Congress.

A spokesman for the South African Defence Force, Commandant John Rolfe, said that "all possible inquiries" had been made into the allegation, but there was no evidence to support it. "If more facts become available, the SADF will obviously be prepared to investigate further."

Local residents alleged that the South Africans spotted a man trying to sneak across the frontier near the Luvuvu border post, fired at him and he fled back to Swaziland. South African troops then allegedly crossed the border four or five times and warned villagers not to harbour the ANC.

Observers believe the South African Army has increased patrols on the Swaziland-Natal border after last Monday's bomb blast in a shopping centre south of Durban which killed five people and injured 50 others, all but three of them whites.

Mozambique and Swaziland have provided the main infiltration routes for ANC insurgents, and there is evidence that they are again being used after being temporarily closed by the signing of the Nkomati non-aggression accord by South Africa and Mozambique in March 1984.

It has been disclosed, mean-

Rebel leader welcomes Aquino amnesty offer

From Keith Dalton, Manila

Left-wing rebels in the Philippines would seriously consider a blanket amnesty, a ceasefire and peace negotiations offered by Mrs Corason Aquino if she won the February 7 presidential election, the alleged chairman of the outlawed Communist Party, Mr Jose Marice Sison, said yesterday.

Detained in a military prison since his capture in 1976, Mr Sison said Mrs Aquino's peace overtures were wise and commendable and he accused President Marcos of being bent on a killing spree to eliminate the officially estimated 12,500 guerrillas of the New People's Army.

During her election campaign Mrs Aquino, widow of the murdered opposition leader, Benigno Aquino, has proposed legalizing the Communist Party and granting the rebels a general amnesty as a prelude to a ceasefire to end the 16-year insurgency.

"I think the insurgency movement will seriously consider any sincere proposal for the good of the people," Mr Sison said in a question-and-answer style communique.

smuggled out of his top-security cell in a suburban military camp.

"Unlike Marcos who never offers anything, but demands outright capitulation and surrender in the guise of an offer, Cory Aquino inspires confidence and merits attention."

Mr Marcos has said Mrs Aquino is politically naive and surrounded by leftist advisers who would lead the country into 10 years of political strife and worse bloodshed if she won the election.

The guerrillas' increasing strength in recent years prompted the Reagan Administration to warn the Marcos regime that a strategic stalemate could be reached within three to five years unless the Armed Forces of the Philippines is re-equipped, reorganized and retained in counter-insurgency techniques.

Mrs Aquino, by "luring" with the Communists, endangered the survival of the Philippines, for if the rebels succeeded in winning power the country would see a repetition of the "killing fields" of Cambodia, Mr Marcos said.

Algerian appeal for economic realism

Algiers (Reuters) - A congress of Algeria's ruling party, convened to amend the country's ideological stance has ended with President Chadli Benjedid appealing for economic realism and issuing a stern warning to his political opponents.

In an address to the National Liberation Front (FLN) convention on Thursday, President Chadli called for an understanding of the role of the private sector in the economy of socialist Algeria. "In no way can the private sector be a substitute for the public sector. It will play a complementary role," he said.

The private sector had made "colossal fortunes" in the 1960s and 1970s because it had been ignored by the law and had not been controlled by the state. "It is therefore inappropriate to raise questions about it now that we have legally defined its role."

The three-day congress, the first in two years, was called to approve changes in the national charter defining Algeria's ideology.

The scope of the planned changes will become clear when the new text of the charter is made public.

The meeting, behind closed doors, had been expected to witness a tussle between hardliners opposed to any deviation from Algeria's basic principles and reformists seeking to adapt

Lagos lists 14 suspects in coup plot

Japan urges release of Mandela

From A Correspondent, Lagos

The Nigerian Information Minister, Lieutenant-Colonel Anthony Ukpo, yesterday released the names of 14 alleged plotters involved in an attempted coup last week.

He confirmed that the accused included Major-General Mamman Vatsa and also named Mamman Nasarawa, five lieutenant-colonels, five Air Force officers, an Army major and a naval officer.

Major-General Vatsa, aged 44, a member of the armed forces ruling council and minister in charge of the new federal capital territory of Abuja, was the first on the list, although Colonel Ukpo said no ring leaders had been identified.

General Vatsa, who comes from President Babangida's home state of Niger and is also known as a poet, is regarded here as a strong man in the Army and was a colleague of the President at the Kaduna defence academy. He was commander of the Brigade of Guards during the military government of General Gowon between 1967 and 1975 and is a former commander of the Nigerian School of Infantry.

Brigadier Nasarawa was commander of the same school. Under the ousted Buhari Government, he was Adjutant-General of the Army, ranking second to President Babangida, who was then Chief of Army Staff.

Among the Air Force officers was Group Captain Salaudeen Latunwo, military governor of Kwara state under General Buhari and now director of logistics in the Air Force.

From David Watts, Tokyo

The Japanese Government has called for the release of Mr Nelson Mandela, naming him for the first time in a statement demanding the abolition of apartheid.

The statement suggested all parties exercise self-restraint, regretting that intensified suppression of riots has claimed many new victims. "It is feared that the solution of the problem through dialogue will become much more difficult by such intensification of suppression and terrorism."

Tokyo said the release of Mr Mandela and all other political prisoners should precede talks with a range of black leaders, including those of the African National Congress.

The intervention on behalf of Mr Mandela follows the announcement of a scheme to help the education of black students in South Africa. It does not, however, represent an increased commitment by the Government itself as the 100 million yen required to finance it is to come from the private sector. There have only been expressions of good intent and no cash commitments have yet been made.

There is no strong sentiment about apartheid in Japan.

CAPE TOWN: Mrs Winnie Mandela, wife of Mr Nelson Mandela, visited her husband in Pollsmoor Prison yesterday for the third time during the Christmas period (Michael Hornsby writes).

Her lawyers also disclosed that she has lodged an urgent application with the Rand Supreme Court challenging as unreasonable and invalid a recent government edict banning her from living in her Soweto home.

Polish tourists jump ship on German visit

Hamburg (Reuters) - About 235 Polish tourists have failed to return to three ships docked at the West German port of Travemunde over the Christmas holidays.

Federal border police said that the Poles failed to return from shopping excursions in the Baltic port, near the East German border, and at least 68 have applied for political asylum in Hamburg.

Jockey killed

Geelong, Australia (AP) - An apprentice jockey, Warren Stevens, aged 19, was killed when his mount, Felja, fell in the third race of the day at this provincial racecourse, 30 miles east of Melbourne.

Tito claim

Belgrade (AP) - The widow and two sons of President Tito of Yugoslavia, who died in 1980, have taken to court two publishers in an effort to get royalties on more than 20 of his books amounting to £100,000.

Holiday haul

New York (Reuters) - The proprietors of Antiques Manor and Eva's Antiques in Manhattan returned to work to find their shops looted of more than £2 million in jewellery and coins over the holiday.

Christmas extended by public demand

Singapore goes on a late spending spree

From Paul Routledge, Singapore

Christmas in Singapore will continue until January 20, the recession-hit traders of the island republic have decreed.

Retailers along the tourist shopping mile of Orchard Road have agreed to foot the bill for an extra week of festive illuminations in the hope that "jingle bells" will ring out the best part of another month.

It will make Yuletide on the Equator a candidate for the Guinness Book of Records as the longest Christmas in history. The season opened almost three months ago and was already well under way by mid-November when shopping centres echoed to the strains of "I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas".

Not that most Singaporeans have ever seen snow, except on the covers of the chocolate boxes which fewer can afford this year because of the economic decline gripping the city state for the first time in 20 years.

The big retail stores, whose price wars are an eloquent testimony of the state of the economy, reported a late rush to spend in the last few days before Christmas (dutifully pointed out as December 25 to a population that is mainly non-Christian).

Singaporeans were evidently waiting to see whether they would get their traditional Christmas bonus before opening their wallets. Mr Pang Say Kong, promotions manager of the big Meuro stores group, said

people were waiting until the last moment.

But the suffering in Singapore is still relative. Shoppers complained about having to drive round for 15 minutes before they could find a parking place near Orchard Road, and the festive din went on until the early hours of Boxing Day.

Shopkeepers who benefited by an increase of up to 30 per cent in their takings accordingly decided that it would be a socially unfriendly act to call off Christmas before the spending spree had reached natural exhaustion.

So the huge tableaux wishing tourists a "Merry Sunny Christmas" from a Santa Claus in boxer shorts and sunglasses will be floodlit for three more weeks.

Kasparov calls rematch rule nonsense

Moscow (AP) - The world chess champion, Gary Kasparov, said yesterday that it was nonsense that he must play his compatriot and former world champion Anatoly Karpov, again for the world chess crown in February.

Kasparov, who took the title from Karpov last month after a sensational 24-game struggle, criticized the World Federation (Fide) for changing the rules of the world championship three times in five years.

In an interview with Tass, however, he emphasized that he was no dissident.

Kasparov, who has just beaten the Dutch grandmaster Jan Timman, 4-2 in an exhibition match in The Netherlands, said the exhaustion resulting from the prolonged tussle between himself and Karpov might open the way for Timman to break the Soviet hold on the world title.

Kasparov and Karpov began their long battle for the chess crown in September 1984. He wanted the rematch, to run from February 10 April 21. Fide has received bids from London and Leningrad to act as hosts.

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THE ARTS

The cinema is ninety years old today. David Robinson looks back at its historic première

Visionaries who gave us a view to thrill

Today is the ninety-first birthday of the cinema. Even though priority among the rival inventors of motion pictures remains a matter of fierce controversy, it is agreed that cinema as public spectacle originated in Paris on December 22, 1895, when the Cinématographe, invented by the Lumière brothers of Lyon, was first exhibited before a paying public.

Louis Lumière was modest about his role: "What did I do? It was in the air, one day or another it was inevitable that the work of Janssen, Edison and above all Marey and his students would arrive at the same result." The perfection of motion pictures was simply a matter of putting together the elements that individually were well-known and well-used.

Since the seventeenth century, numerous images had been projected by the magic lantern. Since the 1830s it was known that, thanks to a "typical phenomenon known as the persistence of vision", an impression of motion could be produced by a rapid succession of separate images. Photography came in with the 1840s, and since the 1870s Eadweard Muybridge, Jules Marey and others had developed cameras that could instantaneously record successive phases of motion. In the 1880s George Eastman put on sale the first celluloid roll film - the final element of the movies.

Nothing before had seemed so lifelike

Edison - or rather one of his assistants, W. K. L. Dickson - had almost solved the problems of 1891 with the Kinetograph camera which photographed motion picture film as we know it today, and the Kinetoscope, in which the resulting pictures could be shown, to produce the illusion of movement. The disadvantage of the Kinetoscope was that it was a peepshow, which could be viewed by only one person at a time. By the early Nineties a number of inventors in America, France, Germany, Britain and elsewhere were dedicated to solving the final problem of projecting the moving pictures so that they could be viewed by an entire audience. The Lumière brothers happened to be the first to come up with a wholly practical solution.

The Lumières, by 1895, were one of the best-known photographic manufacturers in the world. The founder of the firm, Antoine Lumière, was a colourful, ebullient man who had abandoned careers as a sign-painter and as a singer in Parisian cafés-concerts to become a photographer, first in Besançon, then in Lyon. With the introduction of dry-plate photography in the late Seventies, Antoine recognized a nascent industry in the manufacture of photographic materials. No scientist, he struggled vainly to develop a marketable photographic emulsion; and it was his brilliant 17-year-old son Louis who perfected the famous Lumière "Étiquette Bleue" plates which remained on the market for more than half a century.

The success of the new plates reversed the fortunes of Antoine's failing enterprise, whereupon he wisely left the running of the firm to his sons Auguste (born 1862) and Louis (born 1864) and devoted himself pleasantly to viticulture, painting and the good life.

Nevertheless, Antoine evidently remained the visionary of the family. On a trip to Paris in 1894 he saw the Edison Kinetoscope, and at once returned home to advise his sons that vast profits could lie in producing



Top left: the Cinématographe used as a projector; top right: a Lumière advertising billboard of 1896; above: Auguste and Louis Lumière; and right: the Grand Café, Paris, in 1895 where the first films were shown

films to supply the apparatus. Auguste and Louis - who as boys had sworn that any future patents would be in their joint names - obediently set about making a camera.

The challenge was to devise a mechanism that would give the film an intermittent motion, holding it stationary while each individual frame was exposed, and between exposures obscuring the lens with a shutter while the film moved to its next station. Louis claimed that he arrived at the solution in the course of a sleepless night while suffering from a cold. By February 1895 the brothers were ready to patent a device which not only served as a camera and printer but also finally solved the problems of projecting moving images.

The first film shot on the Cinématographe showed the employees pouring out of the Lumière factory at lunchtime. Louis exhibited it in the course of a lecture on the photographic industry in Paris on March 22. Even the Lumières were surprised at the impression it made on the audience and in the Press. During the rest of that year, the brothers busied themselves in building up a repertoire of films, and demonstrating the Cinématographe.

Louis and Auguste regarded the Cinématographe as a refinement of conventional photography. Evidently it was Antoine, old showman that he was, who decided to turn this scientific novelty into a public show. His sons kept themselves notably apart from the venture. It was their father who combed Paris to find suitable premises: after days of search he settled on a room in the basement of the Grand Café, Boulevard des Capucines, exotically decorated as an oriental divan and christened the Salon Indien.

Death will cease to be absolute

Auguste and Louis did not even go to Paris for the première. It was Antoine who hired the chairs, organized the arrangement of the room, with the projector screened by black velvet curtains, and greeted the audience at the preview held on the afternoon of Saturday December 28. The period between Christmas and New Year, with the boulevards crammed with pleasure-seekers, was traditionally an ideal time for launching novelties.

Hardly any Press turned up for the

première (the show-business journalists were covering the marriage of Yvette Guilbert); and the Cinématographe opened quietly, with only 33 paying admissions at one franc a head on the first day. Word of mouth was like wildfire: within three weeks queues waited over an hour or the 20-minute shows, and receipts soared to 2,500 francs a day (to the chagrin of the Grand Café's proprietor, who had declined Antoine's proposal of 20 per cent of the receipts, preferring a guaranteed rent of 30 francs a day).

Contemporary impressions enable us to recapture at least an echo of the excitement of first seeing motion pictures. Nothing before had ever seemed so lifelike - "la nature prise sur le fait". The magic mirror predicted for centuries was a reality. Used to the stilted movement effected by mechanical lantern slides, people marvelled that the Cinématographe showed not only individual figures but whole groups of people in motion; that not only the foreground moved, but so did each individual leaf on the trees and every wave in the sea. Practically all the people who saw it at the time felt they had glimpsed immortality. "Death will cease to be absolute", wrote the critic of *La Presse* on December 30.

Life as well as death looked new and different on the screen. The audiences were charmed by shots of Auguste's baby daughter eating and watching goldfish; delicious with laughter at *L'Arroseur arrosé*, wherein an impish boy steps on the gardener's hose; stirred by the sight of workmen demolishing a wall; and alarmed by a train, seemingly advancing upon them out of the screen. This first show explored much of the entertainment potential of the cinema.

For a year or two the Lumières were to exploit their invention with the skill of industrialists. The Cinématographe was put into series production, and cameramen-projectionists were despatched all over the world, at once to stake out commercial territories and to send back exotic film materials to expand the Lumière catalogue. The brothers experimented with a giant screen and stereoscopy, but after the turn of the century abandoned movies for other interests, notably the development of colour photography. By the time they died - Louis in 1948 and Auguste in 1954 - they had seen their little scientific marvel (for which Antoine is said to have predicted only a limited commercial future) spawn vast industries and become an art.

Television

Love's labour's lost

"You shouldn't preach at the people, it upsets them", advises one of the characters in *Coming Through* (ITV). Alan Plater's film about the early life of D. H. Lawrence and the later use made of the writer's work. There was a substantial amount of preaching done elsewhere in the programme itself.

Devised as a centenary tribute, *Coming Through* was partly straightforward biography and partly a modern romance in which Lawrence figured as the patron saint of the permissive society. "Sexual intercourse began in 1963... between the end of the Chatterbox and the Beatles' first LP", wrote Philip Larkin.

The basis for the longest sermon preached in this programme was that this was a mere historical accident, and that several generations of libidinous and ill-read youth have since traduced the work of an essentially puritanical man. The thwarted desire of a post-graduate layabout for an Open University housewife was the vehicle for this argument.

Philip Martin Brown and Alison Steadman as the modern lovers also had the difficult task of touring the Nottinghamshire countryside explaining the facts of Lawrence's early life for the benefit of a popular-channel audience in danger of seduction

by Stanley Baxter on the opposing network. This was a dismal obligation which strained the flow of their courtship severely.

Meanwhile, back in history, Helen Mirren was appropriately bewitching as Frieda and Kenneth Branagh as the author had a role full of cheeky, contemporary flirtation gambits.

The character of Lawrence's father was given unusually sympathetic treatment; the miner's home itself was much more richly furnished than is customary in Lawrence biographies, with gold-framed pictures and smart wallpaper. However, the programme succeeded in presenting the family as a group of pitiable but essentially noble people brutalized by capitalism rather than by their own neuroses.

The modishness of D. H. Lawrence did not only coincide with liberalization of sexual attitudes but also with the birth of a mythology about working-class life in the North of England. The writer's work now needs to be freed from both these influences, and the problems afflicting *Coming Through* suggest that flat-cap and back-to-backs romance may be the more difficult to overcome.

Celia Brayfield

Radio

Christmas crackers

It is sad that radio's most prodigious efforts to attract audiences are made in the week of the year when it probably attracts less attention than at any other season. By and large, a stertorous nation will have dozed and regurgitated before its television set on Christmas afternoon, not beside its radio.

Yet I cannot help feeling that with so much already going against them, the sound broadcasters do sometimes compound their difficulties by also shooting themselves in the foot. For instance, who did they imagine on Christmas Day was going to be induced to sit down to 90 minutes of William Douglas-Home on Radio 4 at 2.00 pm?

Even on those three other days of the week when, yet again at 2.00 pm, there was yet more Douglas-Home - in new productions, richly cast and plainly meant to attract as large an audience of traditional Radio 4 listeners as possible - how many could in fact tune in? And I suspect that an intended Radio 2 magnet, *Hancock* at 12.30 on December 25, will have fared no better.

It was to prepare for the Annual Review tradition that I turned to what I wrote for the last Saturday of 1984. I closed then with a remark about the licence fee to the effect that, if the decision went against the BBC in its claim for £65, radio listeners might by now be facing reduced prospects. Well, in that sense it did go wrong and radio is having to take a rather large share of the ensuing economies - of which, incidentally, a higher rate of repeats is and will continue to be one of the symptoms.

Another will be the disappearance during the summer months of the 30-minute serial that now goes out on Radio 4 of

an early Sunday evening; apparently there is only enough cash to keep it going from October to March. I must say that as critic, if not as writer, I view this with some equanimity: standards here in recent months have not been very high, particularly in the choice of thrillers, most of which, as I shall tell you when I get to my Annual Review, I am nominating for the Conan Doyle Bronze Cowpat for 1985.

As for repeats, complaining about them is a favourite listener sport which invariably ignores the possibility that anybody might have missed the first broadcast. Moreover, apart from the fact that a repeat is often all that makes the writer's task worthwhile, there is another reason for them: take *The Forsyte Saga*, which first went out on Radio 2 and which Radio 4 has been repeating this last week. Here is a chance for a second audience to appreciate what the first, the Radio 2 lot, had disgraced itself by hating very much.

You cannot help feeling that people who can loath a lovely bit of lunacy like *Forsyte* do not deserve to keep their network and perhaps, if Professor Peacock utters a particularly harsh cry, they will not - for the threat to Radio 2 in 1985 was a real one, even if you find it as hard to credit as I do that retaining BBC local radio is preferred to the existence of a network.

Of course, as I have from time to time observed in 1985, the ways of managements really are pretty odd and I think that this does at last bring us naturally and inescapably to the week's main theme. Re traditional, the obligatory Review of the Year... Watch this space.

David Wade

New York Opera

Great scenes but not always heard

A Metropolitan Opera season that got off to a somnolent start gradually stirred to life with a pair of new productions, *Khosrovshchina* and *Le nozze di Figaro*, a study in contrasts in every respect.

One has learnt, when approaching Mussorgsky's music, to expect loose ends and rough edges, and to love him, wars and all. Similarly, one could find imperfections at every turn in a presentation that nevertheless added up to more than the sum of its parts and proved utterly absorbing.

The Met had staged the work once before, a run of four performances in the 1949-50 season, using the then standard Rimsky-Korsakov orchestration, with substantial cuts, in English. The current production - directed by August Everding, with sets by Ming Cho Lee and costumes by John Conklin - presents Shostakovich's 1958 realization, also cut, in Russian.

The musical heart of *Khosrovshchina* lies in its brilliant and diversified choruses, and it was here that the Met forces, under the knowing direction of the Estonian conductor Neeme Järvi, excelled.

But, if the large-scale numbers were honed to perfection some of the solo singing and smaller ensembles were not. Martti Talvela (Dostoi) and Aage Haugland (Ivan Khovansky), formidable giants, provided appropriate physical stature but

less vocal distinction than one had hoped for, particularly from the former.

In an odd bit of stage action, Wieslaw Ochman (Golitsyn), relatively diminutive both physically and vocally, provided a moment of inadvertent comedy, threatening to strike the hulking Haugland, who could have sweated him like a bothersome fly. (Discretion won in the end, however, for this Golitsyn shot Prince Ivan from a distance rather than stabbing him in the back.)

Most effective, was the conflagration of the hermitage in the final scene, with dense smoke inundating the Old Believers from every direction,

leaving a vivid final impression of flickering candles and the mighty sounds of the great final chorus.

In *Le nozze di Figaro* the performance, despite minor lapses in ensemble and sizeable weaknesses in subsidiary roles on the opening night, was more polished and tidier - perhaps too tidy for its own good.

Levine was on the podium here, and one feared a hard-driven juggernaut of a reading; but instead came a surprisingly relaxed and small-scale performance, eminently self-conscious. Far from verging on a golden age of Mozart interpretation, the Met seems in danger of forgetting how to perform his music on the company's terms. If it is Mozart we want at the Met, then we had better scale it to the house. And this, for all its undeniable attractions, was Mozart in miniature.

The basic set of a classical edifice did lend itself to clever adaptation, but starting with Act II, the central archway opened into a cavernous space that closeted much of the subsequent action. There could not have been more than a handful of decent sight-lines in the house, and some of the smaller voices were lost in the recesses.

Next, the Met, emboldened by its much-acclaimed *Rinaldo* of two seasons ago, tackles Handel's *Salomon*, which promises to raise even thornier issues of performance practice.

James R. Oestreich

LENNON and Sundays too ASTORIA THEATRE

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LENNON and Sundays too ASTORIA THEATRE

FAMILY MONEY/2

Despite the popularity of unit trusts, Lawrence Lever finds that a lot of savers would have gained more from building societies

The year when so many investments went into the red

More than a quarter of the unit trusts available to the public since the beginning of 1985 lost money for investors. Out of the total of 716 funds a staggering 201 are in the red as far as investors are concerned.

Moreover, if you assume that a building society investment would have averaged a net rate of interest of 9 per cent over the year, then only a mere 288 of the 716 unit trusts actually beat this.

The above figures are based on *Planned Savings* statistics from January 1 to December 15, on the offer-to-bid basis with net income reinvested. They represent a sorry advertisement for the unit trust industry as a whole, and particularly for the unit trusts which dominate the loss-making 201 trusts.

It is difficult to award booby prizes to individual groups for overall bad performance - there are any number of candidates.

Target Trust Managers are certainly worthy of a booby prize for overall performance, although this does not mean they were the worst performers of 1985. Target did have one sector leader - Target Preference Share's £112.20 put it top of the gilt and fixed income sector.

However, out of a total of 19 Target unit trusts, lost money

for investors over the year - a pretty amazing performance.

Target also managed to have three unit trusts in the overall bottom 15 - all of which are down by more than one fifth! The highest overall position managed by the 19 Target unit trusts was 65th, in the form of Target UK Capital.

Target Trust Managers Ltd is a subsidiary of Target Group plc, which, according to the *Unit Trust Yearbook*, is "backed by the substantial international resources of its investment advisers Morgan Grenfell. Target managed to beat the 9 per cent net building society investment with only four of its unit trusts.

To be fair, Target is in good company with its booby prize. Lloyds Bank also deserves one for having five out of nine unit trusts in the statistics, coming below the break-even line. And while Target had at least one very creditable performer, the highest that Lloyds could manage was 209th position.

Lloyds was, in accordance, to the year book, the first of the large clearing banks to launch its own unit trust.

Touche Remnant has the same number of unit trusts in the table as Lloyds Bank, but its performance under the TR banner is entirely different and very impressive.

TR Special Opportunities is the third highest of all unit trusts over 11 months. TR Smaller Companies is 27th, and TR General Growth is 39th as well as coming top of the UK general section.

TR American Growth comes second in the North American sector, while TR Special Opportunities Trust is second in the UK Growth sector. Six TR unit trusts came in the top 120 places, seven beat building society investment and only one came below the break-even level.

The managing director John Gittings points out that Touche Remnant entered the unit trust world through the unitization of the Cedar Investment Trust. It was this trust that has become TR Overseas Growth - the only poor performer.

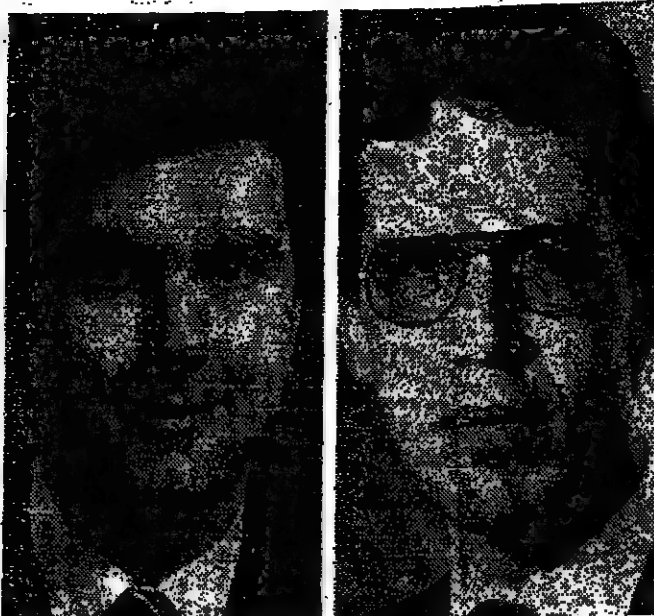
This poor but exceptional performance in TR's terms was caused by a failure to hedge the dollar, and the fact that no single individual fund manager was responsible for the trust's performance.

According to Mr Gittings TR rewards its unit trust managers "generously", but does not have "specific performance-related pay". He says: "We have quite a young team. We use people in their late twenties to mid-thirties."

One of the star performers,



Vanguard's Peter Spiller, Leonard Klahr, Kenneth Levy



Colin McLean 'Wide remit'



Alan Wren: 'More launches'



John Alexander: Making notes

this year at least, is the 27-year-old manager, John Alexander, who was responsible for TR Special Opportunities and TR General Growth - both high-flyers.

"If I wasn't a fund manager I would be a furniture maker," says Mr Alexander, a self-professed handyman, whose current hobbies include "doing up a school house in Dorset". He puts his own spare cash into antiques and furniture.

"There is a lot of hype around," he says of the markets generally. "I am much more interested in taking a large stake in the companies that I know more about than the market."

Mr Alexander spends a lot of time making notes of conversations with brokers, company management and the like. He also spends an equivalent amount "cutting up newspapers". The overall intention

is to maintain copious records of information, easily accessible for quick decisions.

"You've got to be able to respond very quickly to quick lines of stock which come on offer," he says.

Moreover, "every stock developer has his own characteristics", largely because, for example, every one is a product of certain types of investor, or has a certain type of stockbroker behind it.

By recognizing those characteristics, and knowing when they can happen, he is able to pick up some very good deals.

The Prudential's foray into the unit trust scene, with nine unit trusts under the Holborn banner, has also been successful, for the Pru and for investors, although not in TR terms.

The Holborn banner comes fifth overall in the shape of

Holborn International Growth, which is also top of the international sector.

Holborn UK Growth comes 21st overall and sixth in the UK Growth sector. This is not at all bad when you consider that the Pru has had only five trusts up and running for 11 months.

Alan Wren, managing director of Prudential Unit Trust Managers Ltd, says the Pru is planning more unit trust launches in the near future.

One of these is the Holborn Communications Trust, which will specialize in investing in companies that are already successful in exploiting new communications techniques.

In effect, the Pru is going for those companies that have already made it in the communications industry - or are almost there. It will not invest in high-risk start-ups or similar situations.

Carlton Communications and Cable and Wireless are two companies that the Pru is quoting in its promotional blurb as suitable for the new Communications Trust.

Meanwhile, Trevor Pullen, the immediate overseer of all the Holborn unit trusts, admits that because the Pru has such vast sums of money under management, this does give it some clout when it comes to getting good deals for the unit trusts.

He says: "The clout is not in terms of brokers' favours, but rather in our ability to attract important information into our office and our ability to analyse this information so that we know when to buy - and sell too. We are not tame shareholders."

The Pru pays its unit trust fund managers a salary and a bonus. The amount they take home does depend, albeit indirectly, on how well the funds they manage.

Vanguard, a banner waved by the brokers Capel-Cure Myers, has performed exceptionally well this year. Altogether there is about £30 million in the five Vanguard Unit Trusts, and four of these feature highly in the one-year charts.

Three out of the four come in the top 75 overall, and the fourth occupies 114th place.

The top-performing trust from the stable is Vanguard Special Situations - in 23rd place overall - while Vanguard High Yield occupies 37th overall and comes second in the UK equity income sector.

Tony Patterson, director of Capel-Cure Myers and head of its fund management department, says Vanguard unit trusts started being marketed to the public only late this year, because of the view that held sway for a long time that a broker publicly marketing unit trusts could be seen to be competing with its institutional clients Capel-Cure Myers for instance, works for the mighty M & G.

"The world has changed quite a bit. The important thing is to be able to provide a good service in all directions," says Mr Patterson. "Clients have altered their attitude."

It is also worth noting that the nucleus of the Vanguard team has been together for several years. None of the managers is responsible for unit trusts alone - Capel-Cure Myers has £1.1 billion under management. Every unit trust, however, will have a lead manager, in a team of two.

The lead manager on the High Yield fund is Leonard Klahr, aged 39, who says he had

Continued on facing page

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TOP 20 UNIT TRUSTS 1985*

Current value of £100 invested from January 1 to December 16, 1985.

Fund	%
FTA All Share	116.3
FT Ordinary	119.6
Cap Int'l World	109.8
FS Balanced Growth	103.6
Oppenheimer European Grth	100.0
TR Special Opportunities	149.1
Simon & Coates Spec Sits	148.4
Holborn International Growth	147.0
Murray European	146.1
Guinness Mahon Recovery	144.3
Baring First Europe	144.3
Mercury European Growth	144.1
Gre European	142.5
Grofund European	142.3
Tyndall European Growth	142.0
Govett European Growth	141.8
Baring Europe	140.5
Hill Samuel European	139.5
County Bank Financial	139.3
Arbuthnot Pils Europe	139.2
Oppenheimer UK Growth	138.9
Barrington European	138.1
Hambros European	137.0

*Offer-to-bid price - net income reinvested

Source: *Planned Savings*.

BOTTOM 10 UNIT TRUSTS 1985*

Current value of £100 invested from January 1 to December 16, 1985.

Fund	%
M&G Australasian & General	70.9
Britannia Gold & General	70.3
Britannia Universal Energy	68.0
Gartmore Gold Share	64.5
Aitken Hume Energy & Res	64.0
Schroder Gold	62.7
Target Malaysia & Singpro	59.8
Schroder Singapore & Malay	58.9
Waverley Pacific Energy	57.5
Henderson Singapore & Malay	56.3

*Offer-to-bid price - net income reinvested

Source: *Planned Savings*.

TOP 10 UNIT TRUSTS 1985 - BY SECTOR

*Current value of £100 invested from January 1 to December 16, 1985.

UK General	%
TR General Growth	127.4
Stewart Ivory Brit Capital	125.3
Robert Fraser	124.9
Murray General	122.3
S&P Scot Shares	120.5
Fidelity Growth & Income	120.2
Henderson Income & Assets	119.6
M&G Midland & General	118.5
Trades Union Units	118.1
Henderson Income & Growth	118.0
UK Growth	%
FS Balanced Growth	103.6
TR Special Opportunities	149.1
Simon & Coates Spec Sits	148.4
Guinness Mahon Recovery	144.3
Oppenheimer UK Growth	138.9
Vanguard Special Sits	135.2
TR Smaller Companies	133.3
Arkwright	128.7
County Bank Smaller Cos	124.1
UK Equity Income	%
SKG Income & Grth Rtmnt	132.4
Vanguard High Yield	127.8
S&P Stockpicks	123.2
Royal London Income & Grth	122.6
New Court Income	122.2
James Capel Income	122.0
Lazard Income	121.4
S&P High Yield	121.3
L&C Income	121.3
Centers Med Eqty High Inc	121.0
Europe	%
Oppenheimer European Grth	100.0
Murray European	146.1
Baring First Europe	144.3
Mercury European Growth	144.1
Gre European	142.5
Grofund European	142.3
Tyndall European Growth	142.0
Govett European Growth	141.8
Baring Europe	140.5
Hill Samuel European	139.5
North America	%
BG America	126.6
TR American Growth	121.2
Mercury American Growth	118.7
M&G American Smaller Cos	115.8
Franklington American Gen	115.1
Kinwrt Benson American Gr	114.3

Continued on facing page

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FAMILY MONEY/3

- even so, some wiser selections have given much more generous yields in 1985



Stephen Barber: 'Team effort'

Continued from previous page
been managing unit trusts of this type for 13 years.

"I took advantage of the space of convertibles earlier this year," he says, "and picked up the Woolworth and Burton convertible."

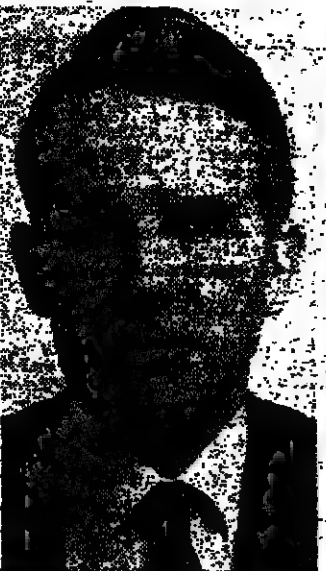
Other constituents of the High Yield trusts are Lounsbury, Unigate and Volex.

Oppenheimer Fund Management deserves a special mention for its excellent overall performance. It has four funds in the top 100, three of which came in the top 40 and one which is second overall. Altogether it has 10 funds in the tables.

One high performer is the Oppenheimer European Growth, which comes top of the European sector with a highly impressive £160 return. The manager Martyn Page, aged 46, is a former financial journalist on the now defunct *Rand Daily Mail*.

He says "We have taken large positions both in certain countries and individual stocks. We anticipate the growth in Germany early on and have benefited from it."

Mr Page deals very heavily



Martyn Page: 'Growth'

through British brokers - he "doesn't mind paying extra commission" that this entails.

He explains: "You get people in London who can give a view of the whole of the Continent."

At the moment Oppenheimer European Growth has approximately two-thirds of its investments split more or less evenly between West Germany and Switzerland.

The next largest exposure is France which accounts for about 12 per cent. And it is worth bearing in mind that this particular trust is by no means a small one - it is actually around the £19 million mark - and given that size often makes performance that little bit more difficult, this reflects very positively indeed on Mr Page's performance.

Another interesting aspect to the performance of the Oppenheimer stable, is that the two unit trusts it has as sector leaders beat the nearest rivals hands down.

After the European Growth's performance comes Murray European, which is almost 14 points behind. In effect Oppenheimer European Growth beat its nearest rivals by 14 per cent.



Trevor Pullen: 'Not tame'

The Oppenheimer Pacific Growth, which tops the Far East sector, with a return of £128.70, is more than 17 per cent clear of its nearest rival, Dunedin Far East, which achieved a return of £110.70.

Making money out of a Japanese unit trust has been possible but a lot harder work this year than previously when managers sat back, happily riding the high technology and exporters boom. A little more sophistication was needed this year, and the Japanese sector performance statistics show clearly those that have it - and those that do not.

At the top of the Japanese sector with a very impressive performance is MIM Japan Performance which managed an increase of just over 30 per cent. Also very deserving of a slap on the back are the managers of the Schroder Japanese Smaller Companies unit trust, which was just pipped in the tables by the MIM fund. Schroder managed a 29.3 per cent increase.

However, there is a long gap after these two sparkling performances to the third-placed Japanese unit trust - Garmore Japan, which managed a 13.2



Touche Remnant: One successful team in the field

per cent increase, more than 15 per cent behind Schroder Japanese Smaller Companies.

In fact, slightly more than half of the Japanese unit trusts actually produced a loss for investors on an after-tax basis. Fidelity, once viewed as having something of a Midas touch when it came to Japanese investment has both its Japanese unit trusts firmly in the bottom 10 of the sector and well below break-even level.

Stephen Barber, manager of the top-performing MIM Japan Performance, is keen to point out that the success of the fund is very much the result of team effort.

The success of the unit is largely accounted for by the MIM team anticipating problem areas, such as the glut in the semiconductor industry and protectionist noises from the United States, and recognizing the excessive domestic liquidity as well as knowing what to do about it.

"A conventional western-style approach was no good - you had to look at the market through Japanese eyes," says Mr Barber. "In effect, you had to identify the sort of oppor-

tunities which you thought the Japanese themselves would be heavily investing in."

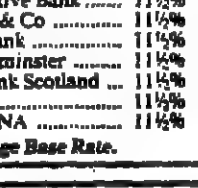
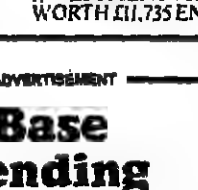
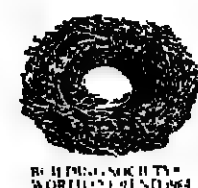
Last, but certainly not least, mention must be made of the absolute number one performing unit trust, FS Balanced Growth. This is the only unit trust that FS Investment Managers Ltd has had going for more than one year. It has achieved an excellent return of £163.60 over the year.

FS manages its investments from Glasgow, and altogether has almost £100 million under management. The Balanced Growth unit trust, is currently around the £7.5 million level.

The managing director of FS Investment Managers Ltd, Colin McLean, says the trust has a very wide remit, although at present it is invested predominantly, about 95 per cent, in Britain.

"We tend to trade the larger companies fairly actively," he says. "In fact, the trust is very similar to a special situations trust in the way that we trade larger companies. We also take a very keen interest in the smaller company element, and generally are orientated most towards service companies."

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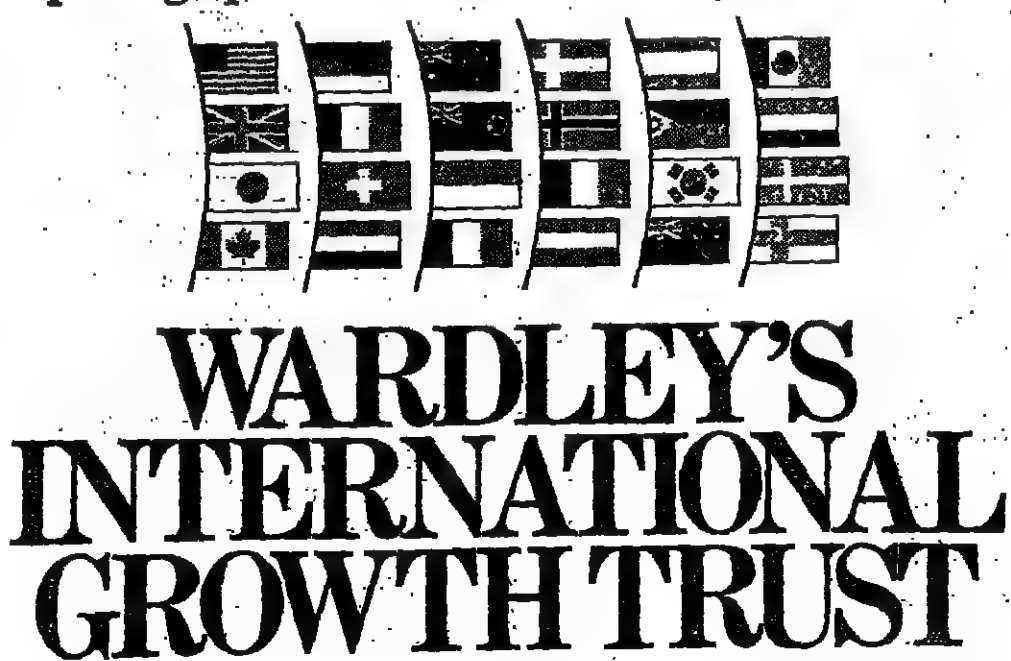
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TOP 10 UNIT TRUSTS 1985 - By SECTOR (Current value of £100 invested from January 1 to December 15, 1985)

Continued from previous page	Commodity and Energy	Atlanta Investment Trust	107.1
Abbey American Growth	112.9	Oppenheimer Pacific	108.6
Gam North America	112.0	Gilt and Fixed Interest Income	111.2
S&P United States Growth	111.8	Target Preference Share	108.7
Garmore American	111.5	Arbutnot Preference Share	107.8
Far East	108.1	Neistat Gilt & Fix Int	107.8
Oppenheimer Pacific Gilt	128.1	Tyndal Preference	107.6
Dunedin Far East	110.7	MLA Gilt	108.4
Britannia Hong Kong Perfm	109.3	Rowan High Interest	108.3
Hambro Jap & Far East	108.0	Garmore Fixed Interest	108.2
Garmore Far Eastern	108.0	Key Fixed Interest	108.4
F&C Far Eastern	104.9	Profit Convert & Gilt	104.6
Equitable Far Eastern	104.9	Hill Samuel Gilt & Fix Int	104.3
Manulife Far East	102.2	Gilt and Fixed Interest Growth	108.3
Rowan Far East	101.7	Abbey Capital Reserve	108.3
Sun Alliance Far East	101.1	Whittingdale Short D Gilt	108.7
Japan	100.6	Britannia Growth	108.0
Mim Japan Performance	130.5	Manulife Gilt & Fix Int	107.8
Schroder Japanese Smir Cos	129.3	Arbutnot PFI Deposit	107.2
Garmore Japan	111.2	S&P Gilt & Fix Int Growth	106.5
Berrington Japan	111.1	Rowan Fixed Interest	106.5
County Bank Japan Growth	108.8	Mercury Gilt	105.8
Govest Japan Growth	106.8	Allied Dunbar Gilt Growth	105.8
IG Japan	106.7	County Bank Gilt Strategy	106.5
Stewart Ivory Japan	106.4	Mixed Income	120.0
M&G Japan Smaller Cos	104.8	Royal London High Income	120.0
Barclays Japan & Gan	104.4	Profit Extra Income	118.5
International	117.0	Hoborn High Income	118.3
Hoborn International Growth	147.0	Brown Shipley High Income	114.1
Shelphogate Progressive	127.8	Garmore High Income	113.8
Fidelity Managed Internl	125.7	Lloyds UK Extra Income	111.7
Britannia Internl Leisure	125.9	Canlife Income	111.3
Gam Sterling & Internl	123.7	Oppenheimer High Income	110.6
Biotechnology International	123.6	S&P Income	110.5
Perpetual Growth	122.1	County Bank Extra Income	110.5
Oppenheimer Internl Gilt	119.4		
Canadian & Foreign Internl	118.7		
TR Global Technology	118.6		

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FAMILY MONEY 4

Take care if you leave the winter behind

It is around about this time of year that many people with time to spare go away on holiday to escape the traditionally bleak English winter. It is an admirable idea, if you have the time and the money, but a word of warning comes from Geoffrey Salmon, of loss assessors Salmon Adams Hilton Ltd. Mr Salmon points out that many household insurance policies stipulate that absences from the home of more than 30 days must be notified to the insurers. When you go away for more than 30 days without notifying the insurers, you may find that if you have to make a claim on your return - say, for a burglary or a flood - the insurers can, with legal justification, refuse to pay.

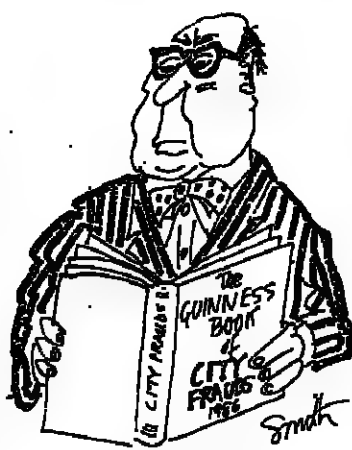
So notify your insurers - or your insurance broker if you deal through him when taking out the policy - on any occasion where you think it likely that you are going to be away for this length of time. If in doubt - if, for instance you are planning a 28-day break - still notify. You may be delayed, or deliberately prolong your stay, and without notification this could prove an expensive extension.

School for cash

If you feel you don't know as much about money as you'd like to, financial planners Murray Noble will be running a series of free evening workshops in London early next year. Three of the workshops, described by the company as informal "educational evenings", are proposed for January and February on pensions, investments and Business Expansion Schemes.

More card cover

Barclaycard announced recently that people using its card to book travel would



receive automatic accident insurance cover for themselves and members of the immediate family. This week, Lloyds Bank has launched a similar travel accident scheme for Lloyds Access cardholders. The arrangement with Royal Insurance covers up to £20,000 insurance for trips at home or abroad, business or pleasure, long-stay or short-stay. Like the Barclaycard offer, it even covers commuting if a season ticket is purchased with the card. The main exclusions are racing, war and flying when you pilot yourself.

For full details contact Customer Enquiries, Lloyds Bank Access, Access House, 200 Priory Crescent, Southend-on-Sea, SS99 7BB (Southend 338366).

Right to a rebate

What happens if you want to pay off a hire purchase agreement early? You should be entitled to a rebate - but the full answer can be found in a guide, *Early Settlement Rebates*, prepared by the Finance Houses Association, trading standards departments and other consumer bodies.

The hobby hoarders

Some 2.5 million of us collect stamps and another two million hoard coins,

according to Mintel research. Mintel says: "There are 7.5 million collectors in the UK who aspire to make money from their investments and the total value of all their collections is between £3,500 million and 4,000 million." About one in six households contains at least one collector. Collectors are, says Mintel, more likely to be male than female, and most likely to be under 25.

Don't go short

If you are concerned about exceeding your credit card limit while away on holiday, you might make use of the travel vouchers, issued by a range of travel agents, through Barclaycard. The vouchers enable customers to pre-pay hotel, car rental and other travel bills in an estimated 100,000 outlets throughout the world. Agencies which have agreed to issue the vouchers include Pledford's, Co-op Travel, Ian Allen Travel and Althams.

Prices steady

House prices may be soaring in central London but, according to the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, the number of houses coming on to the market has continued to prevent any marked increase in prices. "Of the 265 agents surveyed in England and Wales, 64 per cent reported no increase in prices during the period under review", says the RICS. "Generally speaking, there has been less activity in the higher price bracket, although there are exceptions to this."

Going for gold

Gold bugs are going to grow a little faster in 1986 but then again they may not according to Mark Wellesley-Wood, partner at stockbrokers Greaveson Grant Co. Writing in the firm's *Gold Update* magazine, he says monetary policy is now favourable to the metal and demand is rising again. As for next year, this is going to be neither bull, nor bear, but transitional. At least 1985, according to

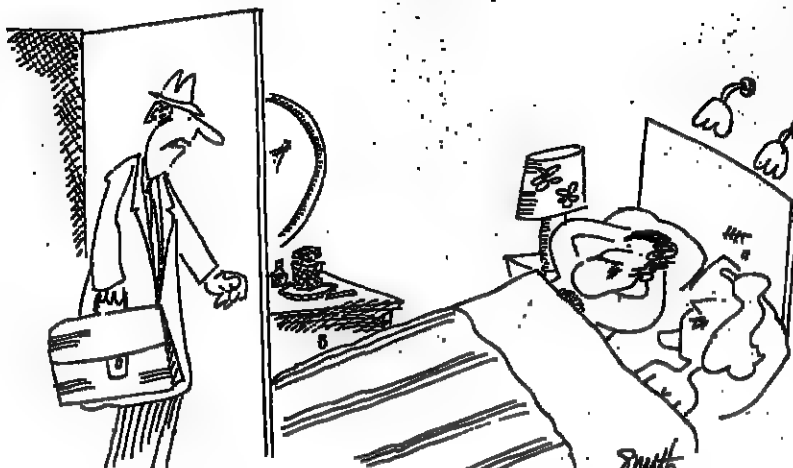
Mr Wellesley-Wood, has seen off the bull market in gold. "The market has developed a healthy base, albeit with a few uncertainties over factors such as the oil price still lurking in the wings," he says.

First time in

Scimitar Asset Management kicks off with its first unit trust today. The Scimitar Global Growth Trust is aiming for capital growth through an international portfolio of holdings. The minimum investment is £500 and there is a 1 per cent bonus allocation of units for those investors purchasing units before January 17. For further details contact Scimitar Asset Management Ltd, 33-35 Gracechurch Street, London EC3. (01-623 8711).

Direct drivers

The Royal Bank of Scotland is well pleased with its Direct Line method of



quoting and providing motor insurance cover over the telephone, having signed up 18,000 willing customers in three months. "A unique low-cost insurance package" is how Direct Line Insurance is described. It will provide instant and free quotations over the telephone - and instant cover if you want it. You pay by credit card or direct debit. You can ring in any time between 8 am and 8 pm weekdays and 9 am and 2 pm on Saturdays. It is certainly worth seeing if Direct Line can provide a more competitive quotation than the motor insurance you have already got. But remember it is not simply the premium that determines whether a particular policy is competitive. You have to look at the scope of the cover, size of the excess, perils - such as fire legal expenses insurance cover, etc - to be in a position to decide. With Direct Line you are dealing "direct" with one underwriter - so you are not necessarily getting the best deal available.

Details: Direct Line Insurance (01-686 2468).

How did you fare in the big money quiz?

- Chinese Ceramics. The index is based on a value of 100 at September 1975, and Chinese Ceramics had a value of 648, compared with English Furniture at 509 in our report of September 21.
- Minimum age for taking out a home annuity or reversion is 69, although some companies are now making moves to reduce the limit to nearer 60. We will, of course, keep you posted.
- In this year's autumn package for students, Barclays, Midland and TSB made low-cost loans available to students leaving education to take up their first jobs.
- The remainder of Britoll's shares were offered at 185p.
- A bank sweep is an arrangement with your bank manager to move surplus funds from a current account to an interest-bearing deposit account whenever appropriate, without specific instructions from you for every transaction.
- CRT is Composite Rate Tax, charged at 25 per cent regardless of a taxpayer's individual liability and not reclaimable. Banks, building societies and other deposit-taking institutions started deducting it from interest paid to depositors from April 6, 1985. Some institutions will not be subject to CRT until as late as April 1986 - local authority town hall bonds, for instance.
- Mutual?
- Pockham Building Society.
- Occupational Pensions Advisory Service, a charity set up 2½ years ago to help those at odds with their pension schemes, chaired by Margaret Grahng.
- The Banking Ombudsman is Ian Edwards-Jones, and he starts to deal with complaints from the public on January 1, 1986.
- Lloyds.
- Major Charles Fenwick, who owns the Chelsea Garden Centre, believes that any money spent on having gardens professionally improved will be recouped when the house is sold.
- The Quilter-Goodson share shop in Debden, Oxford Street.
- Nothing. As the law stands at present any income over £2,205 (excluding local authority further education grants) is taxable.
- One year.
- £111.
- Yes. Goods must be of merchantable quality, as described, and fit for their purpose - whether or not bought in a sale.
- Vanguard Special Situations - £100 invested on an offer-to-offer basis, net income reinvested, over 10 months, £140.70 (profit); over two years, £258.70 (seventh) and two years, £217.50 (first). Tables published November 16, 1985.
- The Arkwright fund, run by stockbrokers Henry Cooke Lamsden, was the best-performing stockbroker unit trust, coming 11th overall out of a total of 613 funds.
- The TSB privatisation has been postponed following a ruling in the Scottish courts that the depositors already owned it.
- The top-performing unit trust over the first six months of this year was FS Balanced Growth (value of £100 invested on an offer-to-offer basis, net income reinvested, at June 1 was £141.30).



B. Geoffrey Salmon, independent umbrella manufacturer, survived an inland revenue investigation and bill of nearly £19,000 back tax and National Insurance for workers he claimed were self-employed.

18. Investment trusts, on average £129.8 as opposed to unit trusts £118.1 (after to offer, net income reinvested).

19. National Association of Dealers and Investment Managers - a watchdog organization.

20. BAE shares closed on May 10, 1985, at 94.8 million shares were offered.

21. Property companies were excluded from tax relief under BES in the spring Budget 1985.

22. Jennifer Pinder, with the backing of the Equal Opportunities Commission, took Friends' Provident to court, claiming discrimination because of a 50 per cent loading on her insurance premiums simply because she is a woman. She lost.

23. Prudential, Sun Alliance and Eagle Star all said they would quote for non-UK insurance.

24. To become a Lloyd's name you must have £100,000 in readily available assets.

25. The Money '85 exhibition took place at Olympia in September - the first personal investment exhibition of its kind in this country.

26. Stock-on-Tees in Cleveland had the largest rates rise - 14.91 per cent.

27. Both. Some leaseholders of houses can, if their ground rent is above a certain limit, buy their houses. Leaseholders of flats cannot.

28. Stamp duty is not payable on house purchase when (i) the price is less than £50,000, and (ii) when ownership of the house is transferred as part of a divorce settlement.

29. Joe Bradshaw is the DIY conveyancing campaigner.

30. Appropriately for the time of year, the 10 or 15 of Man o' the Sea is the "Age".

31. The Ombudsman dealt with 3,477 inquiries from the public.

32. State Earnings-Related Pension. The recently published White Paper on social security reform aims at halving the cost by the year 2033 in the hope of encouraging the spread of personal and occupational pensions.

33. The Arkwright fund, run by stockbrokers Henry Cooke Lamsden, was the best-performing stockbroker unit trust, coming 11th overall out of a total of 613 funds.

34. The TSB privatisation has been postponed following a ruling in the Scottish courts that the depositors already owned it.

35. The top-performing unit trust over the first six months of this year was FS Balanced Growth (value of £100 invested on an offer-to-offer basis, net income reinvested, at June 1 was £141.30).

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Information required INCOME (GROSSING)

That's the end of this year's Family Money Quiz. You should certainly have been able to answer most of the questions. More next year.



C. Judith Chalmers and Neil Macfarlane are both non-executive directors of Chelsea Restaurants, a BES company sponsored by Johnson Fry.

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ACROSS THE WORLD COMPUTERS TELL ROBOTS HOW TO BUILD CARS.

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SAATCHI & SAATCHI

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tunities to invest in them have never been greater.

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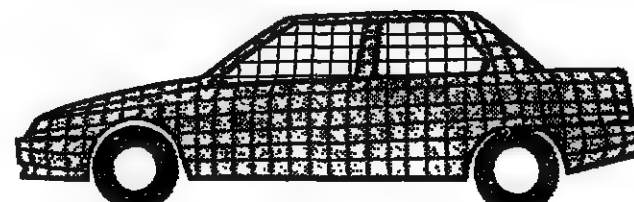
research department (one of the largest in the City).

All of which makes the Trust such an ideal opportunity to share in the profits resulting from the phenomenal growth in the communications industry.

Of course, you must remember that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

To buy units in the Trust, at the initial offer price of 50p, complete the coupon below.

Alternatively, you can call us on our free LinkLine number between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m., Monday to Friday.



TODAY YOU NO LONGER NEED TO BUILD A PROTOTYPE TO KNOW HOW GOOD A CAR IS. YOU SIMPLY ASK A COMPUTER.

The number is 0800 010 345. This offer closes on 17 January, 1986.



BRITISH TELECOM WAS THE LARGEST FLOTATION OF A COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY IT WAS OVER-SUBSCRIBED 3 TIMES

computerised tills and word processors.

The world of Public Relations, advertising and video communications is also growing at a staggering rate.

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I wish to invest the sum of £ in Holborn Communications Trust (Minimum £1000) at the initial offer price of 50p.

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Your cheque should be made payable to Prudential Unit Trust Managers Limited.

Please complete the following in BLOCK CAPITALS

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Signature _____

Date _____

If the units are to be registered in more than one name, please attach the other unitholder(s) information to this application form.

NOTE: Applications received by 17th January, 1986 will be dealt at the fixed price of 50p. After that date units will be available at the daily quoted offer prices appearing in the national press. This offer may close earlier at the Managers' discretion.

HOLBORN COMMUNICATIONS TRUST

Prudential

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YOU CAN BUY FROM MONDAY. CALL FREE 0800 010 345.

General information. Buying and selling units. Contract notes are normally sent out by return of post, certificates will follow within 28 days. Units can be sold at the prevailing bid price by simply sending the requested certificate to the Managers. Payment will normally be made within 3 days. After the close of the usual offer, unit prices and yields will be calculated daily and shown in the Times, the Financial Times and other national newspapers. Return ratios and qualified intermediaries and rates are available on request. There is an initial charge of 3% of the offer price of units. An annual management charge of 1% (- VAT) of the value of the fund is deducted from gross income and allowed for in the estimated gross yield. The Trust Deed permits a maximum annual charge of 2% subject to the Managers providing 3 months notice. Income: The initial estimated gross yield at the initial offer price of 50p is 12.5%. Income is distributed 1/3 by the Department of Trade and Industry and the first distribution will be 21st September, 1986. The Trust is Authorised Operator, Prudential Unit Trust Managers Limited, Registered in England, No 179216. Member of Unit Trust Association in Trustee, Barclays Bank Trust Company Ltd. This offer is not open to residents of Eire.

FAMILY MONEY/5

Millions more for the taxman

INLAND REVENUE

Enormous sums of extra cash have been flowing almost unnoticed into the taxman's coffers for the past five years. In that time, the amount called from investigations into cases of suspected undeclared income has increased by 234 per cent, from £111 million to £371 million.

This has not come about because of a sudden surge of diligence on the part of tax inspectors. It is the result of a conscious decision to channel Inland Revenue staff to investigation work.

The number of investigations has increased by 75 per cent, so the Revenue is no doubt pleased with the financial return on its efforts.

In response to this revenue drive, Mike Reader, a former tax inspector, is leading a national tax investigation unit recently set up by accountants Spicer and Pegler to help the growing number of people coming under Revenue scrutiny.

"If an employer is thinking of giving someone any kind of extra payment or benefit, he should make sure he knows the tax implication," says Mr Reader.

"Large companies are more inclined to try to do things by the book, but decisions taken at quite a low level can have catastrophic cumulative effects."

"We had a big client who had been making lunch payments of £1.50 to workers occupied away from the depot. They got a £7 million tax demand, because the Revenue argued the workers weren't really using the money for lunch and backdated the tax claim six years, which is their standard time period for a 'material underpayment'."

"We demonstrated the tax demand was excessive and in the end we settled for about £1 million, but you can guarantee the decision to make £1.50 lunch allowances was not taken at board level."

"Another client who ran a shop wanted to give one of his assistants an extra £10 a week to get a taxi home after late opening. In the end the only way we could get the Revenue to give it a dispensation was to agree that the employer would make direct payment to the tax firm."

Self-employed people should also beware of coming under the spotlight of one of the investigation agencies - both the Inland Revenue and Customs and Excise have several

different branches doing the work.

Mr Reader says: "Anyone who hasn't really got self-employed status, because they are just working for one firm, are under its control and use its equipment, for example, should know they are taking a risk."

If you do find yourself the subject of an investigation Mr Reader gives the following advice: "Don't give an impression of guilt, don't feel you have to answer questions on the spot. You are entitled to ask the investigating officials to put their questions in writing, but

PAYE produces the biggest single yield

don't be obstructive because that will certainly influence whether you are treated leniently or harshly at the end of the day."

The Revenue is entitled to demand repayment of 100 per cent of the tax lost, plus interest from the date it became due, and a fine equal to the amount of lost tax. However, the penalty is subject to abatement by several factors:

- Disclosure when challenged by the Revenue - up to 20 per cent
- Voluntary disclosure before being challenged - up to 30 per cent
- Co-operation with the investigation - up to 40 per cent
- Size and gravity of the non-payment - up to 40 per cent



Mr Reader, keen to extol the services of his company, where all the staff are former tax or Customs and Excise officials, says:

"It helps that we can talk in their language, and we know what sort of benefits are given to their staff. For instance, they get a 30p-a-mile petrol allowance so they can hardly argue that is excessive for another organization."

"Also, Customs and Excise staff park all over the tarmac at Heathrow where anyone else would have to pay."

But why is the Revenue suddenly clamping down on tax evaders?

A former tax inspector explained: "It used to be considered very *infra dig* to soil one's hands with the grubby mechanisms of PAYE."

"It was left to inexperienced staff, while tax inspectors grappled with thorny legal arguments which wouldn't produce much extra income even if the Revenue won. Now they've woken up to the fact that PAYE produces the biggest single yield."

Before 1977 the Revenue examined every set of accounts, but since then they have been more selective. About 95 per cent of accounts submitted are accepted on face value. The rest are picked out for closer examination.

There is plenty of scope for error in dealing with tax. The PAYE form, on which the employer makes a return of all

the expenses, payments and benefits provided to directors and other higher-paid employees, is still notoriously complicated, even though it was simplified this year.

With the change in positions for employers' National Insurance contributions, there may also be a trend back towards offering perks in lieu of salary. This could reverse the situation which has prevailed for several years and could further complicate the employer's tax position.

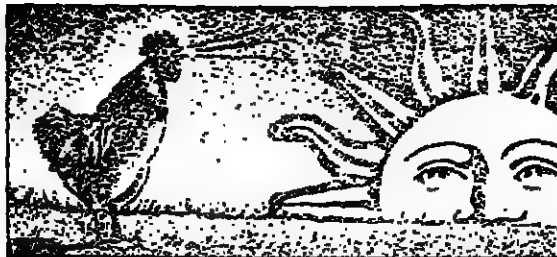
In the 1970s when personal tax rates were high, the incidence of perks was widespread. The present Government has made much of its aim to make cash more attractive than payments in kind, and the reductions in personal taxation have gone some way towards achieving that.

But since the removal of the upper limit for employers' National Insurance contributions from this October, many firms will probably prefer to give someone a holiday, for instance, and bear the tax, rather than pay tax and extra National Insurance on a £1,000 bonus.

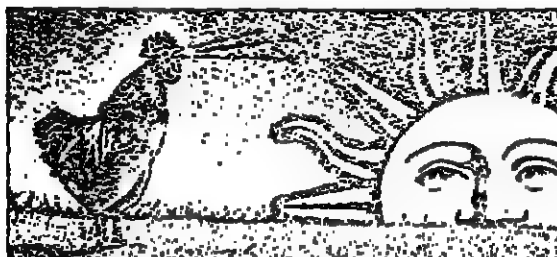
Incentive prizes, free parking or "expenses" payments which are considered part of the salary in certain fields, are the ones which are likely to cause problems and give rise to an investigation.

Lois Rogers

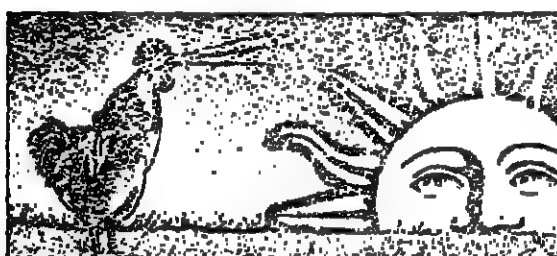
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You'll find the expert analysis which lies behind these achievements in our quarterly investment review, 'The Strategist'. The latest issue deals with prospects in Europe. For a copy and more information about our unit trusts, please clip the coupon.

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All statistics: 'Planned Savings' to 1.12.85.



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It's not just flag waving. This year Save & Prosper believe that for experienced investors, America is the market for '86 that you can't afford to ignore. Because in our eyes the signs add up to one thing, right now: Profits.

IT ALL ADDS UP.

Look at the facts that figure in our calculations. In spite of recent highs, Wall Street has underperformed against other markets in recent years. With the result that by both international and historic standards, it's now underpriced.

Corporate profits are on their way up. Estimates for '86 are into double percentage figures - compared with a poor performance over the past year.

And the economy is livening up too. Federal Reserve policy is keeping the dollar down - which will continue to raise exports and help manufacturing industry.

All of which - along with low inflation and stable interest rates - stacks up nicely as an outstanding investment story. And should, we think, make the profits stack up pretty nicely too.

U.S. GROWTH FUND

DETAILS YOU NEED TO KNOW.

OBJECTIVE. To provide a portfolio invested in the shares of US companies.

PRICES AND YIELD. The current offer price of units is 70.8p (at 20.12.85) and the current estimated gross yield is 8.57% p.a. These are quoted daily in leading national papers.

DEALING IN UNITS. Units may normally be bought or sold on any working day. Certificates will normally be forwarded within 14 days. When units are sold back to the Managers, payment is normally made within 7 days of our receiving renounced certificates.

NET INCOME DISTRIBUTIONS. 15th April each year.

CHARGES. Initial charge 5% plus a rounding adjustment not exceeding the lower of 1% or 1.25p per unit, which is included in the offer price of units. Remuneration (at rates available on request) will be paid to authorised professional advisers. Annual charge 1% of the value of the Fund plus VAT. This is deducted from the Fund's assets to meet Managers' expenses, including Trustees' fees.

INVESTMENT POWERS. The Managers have executed a supplemental trust deed enabling them to purchase and write traded options subject to the limitations laid down by the Department of Trade and Industry.

SAFEGUARDS. The Fund is authorised by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry. The Trustee is Bank of Scotland.

MANAGERS. Save & Prosper Securities Limited, 1 Finabury Avenue, London EC2M 2QY. Telephone: 01-588 1711. A member of the Unit Trust Association.

STANDARD & POORS RICHES INDEX.

The signs from the past are good too. Our U.S. Growth Fund has risen 18.3%* over 1 year. (Roundedly beating the nil rise in the Standard & Pours Composite Index adjusted for currency.) And over 3 years and 10 years the story's the same. Up 52.9%* and 276.7%* respectively.

But we believe that by selecting investments in companies that look set to ride high on the current economic conditions, the future looks even brighter. (Particularly as the fund is well hedged against currency fluctuations.)

You can invest in U.S. Growth Fund from £250 or from £20 a month.

You should remember that the price of units and any income from them can go down as well as up.

But in our view the U.S. investment opportunities for experienced investors in '86 are as star spangled as the banner.

*Offer to offer price with net income reinvested to 1.12.85.

I wish to invest £..... (minimum £250 initially, £100 subsequently) in Save & Prosper United States Growth Fund at the offer price prevailing on the day of receipt of my application.

I enclose a cheque made payable to Save & Prosper Securities Limited. I am over 18.

I would like distributions of income to be reinvested in further units.*

☐ Please send me details of saving from £20 a month.

*Delete if not applicable.

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Postcode _____

Existing Account No. (if any) _____

Signature _____ Date _____

This offer is not available to residents of the Republic of Ireland. Reg. in Scotland No. 19438. Reg. Office: 68/73 Queen Street, Edinburgh EH2 4NX.

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I would like distributions of income to be reinvested in further units.*

☐ Please send me details of saving from £20 a month.

*Delete if not applicable.

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INVESTMENT TIPS ON U.S.

So just now Masterfund will give you investment in the U.S. (A glance to your left will tell you why.)

But you'll also get a stake in British equities. (That market's still climbing very nicely, thank you.)

And a share in the land of the rising sun. (Land of the active management.)

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New Masterfund is a special unit trust invested by our experts between their choice of our other 27 unit trusts.

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With the simple aim of making it grow. From the moment you put it in. To the moment you take it out.

A TIP FOR 86... 87... 88...

You can invest in Masterfund from £250 or from £20 a month. Just complete and return the coupon to us or talk to your professional adviser.

You should remember that the price of units and any income from them can go down as well as up.

But if there's one investment tip we would make, it's Masterfund. Because there's nothing like being in the right place at the right time.

All the time.

MASTERFUND

DETAILS YOU NEED TO KNOW.

OBJECTIVE. To provide a portfolio invested selectively in Save & Prosper authorised unit trusts.

PRICES AND YIELD. The current offer price of units is 24.9p (at 20.12.85) and the current estimated gross yield is 3.31% p.a. These are quoted daily in leading national papers.

DEALING IN UNITS. Units may normally be bought or sold on any working day. Certificates will normally be forwarded within 14 days. When units are sold back to the Managers, payment is normally made within 7 days of our receiving renounced certificates.

NET INCOME DISTRIBUTIONS. 31st January and 31st July each year (from July 1986).

CHARGES. Initial charge: 5% plus a rounding adjustment not exceeding the lower of 1% or 1.25p per unit, which is included in the offer price of units. No initial charge or rounding adjustment will be included in the price of those units in the underlying funds which Masterfund purchases. Remuneration (at rates available on request) will be paid to authorised professional advisers. Annual charge: 1% of the value of the Fund plus VAT (with a permitted maximum of 1% - subject to three months' notice). This is deducted from the Fund's assets to meet Managers' expenses, including Trustees' fees. The rate of charge on Masterfund will be reduced by the rates of annual charge applicable to the underlying funds held at the date the Masterfund annual charges are calculated.

SAFEGUARDS. The Fund is authorised by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry. The Trustee is Bank of Scotland.

MANAGERS. Save & Prosper Securities Limited, 1 Finabury Avenue, London EC2M 2QY. Telephone: 01-588 1711. A member of the Unit Trust Association.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

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UNIT LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

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FAMILY MONEY/6

Bills and books above board

The National Federation of Self-Employed and Small Businesses claims its members are being harassed by the taxman. Some traders pay whatever the taxman asks because the cost of contesting the assessment is greater than the tax, claims the federation. One thing is certain - if you are starting up in business you will need to keep accurate records in order to fight off tax demands.

SARA WILLIAMS describes how to go about basic book-keeping



It is a giant leap from employment to self-employment. The footing must be firm on the other side. You do not want to find yourself buried in a quagmire of bills, invoices, and account books. An important, and surprisingly difficult, task of starting in business is the organization of records and accounts.

There is no one right way of filing paper and setting the figures down. Different sorts of businesses require different sorts of systems for keeping records. A system which is too sophisticated can cause as many problems as one which is too simple.

Good accurate records are needed for two extremely important reasons. First, for the self-employed or sole trader, records are needed to substantiate what is in the accounts.

One of the advantages of being self-employed is that your accounts do not have to be audited, but they must convince your tax inspector.

It helps you to know what is going on

If the accounts cannot be backed by written documentation, you may find yourself paying a higher tax bill than otherwise. Or almost as bad, your tax inspector may launch an investigation into your business affairs.

Accounts have to be prepared for every accounting period and sent to your taxman. The accounts should consist of some details of sales and expenses. A balance sheet is not essential, but could be helpful.

The second reason for keeping accurate records is that it helps you to know what is going on in your business. This, in turn, means you can keep better

control and you can plan for the future. It is impossible to make realistic estimates and projections if the basic data is patchy and inaccurate.

If the business does not have many transactions, records can be very simple. For example, you do not need to get bogged down with double-entry book-keeping. A couple of simple accounts books to record transactions may well be sufficient. Being methodical is far more important than sophistication.

The first step is to produce an invoice, numbered in date order, for every sale you make. If the item is paid for in cash, a receipt will be preferable to an invoice.

A copy of the invoice or receipt should be filed in numerical order in a ring-binder or similar file.

If there is a fair number of invoices, it might be sensible to have one file for paid invoices and another for those unpaid. As every invoice is paid, any documentation which comes with the payment should be stapled. It should then be transferred to the paid file.

A separate file should be kept for every accounting period to avoid confusion.

The next step is to write down in your accounts or analysis book a record of every sale. For every sale there should be three columns, five if the business is registered for VAT.

The first column should be the date; the second would have a description of the sale, such as the number on the invoice plus the name of the customer; the third column should give the amount of the sale.

If you are registered for VAT, this third column should show the amount of sale including VAT. There should be two

further columns, one for the amount of the VAT and one for the amount of the sale excluding VAT.

The purchase side of a business is recorded in much the same way. As every invoice comes in for goods which have been bought, it should be numbered and filed in numerical order.

When it comes to recording purchases, a more detailed analysis can be useful for the accounts which are produced for tax purposes.

In the first column, the date the invoice is received should be entered. The next column should have a description, including the number of the invoice. The next column should be for the amount of the invoice.

If you are registered for VAT, two further columns will be needed. One column will show the amount of VAT and another will show the amount of the invoice, excluding VAT.

After that, there should be several more columns for analysis. The exact headings will depend of the type of business.

The headings could include stationery, fares, petrol, postage or other main business purchases. The amount of every invoice, excluding VAT if you are registered, should be entered under the appropriate heading.

Items for which you do not receive an invoice or a receipt, such as postage or fares, can be a problem. The trick is to keep a written record to convince your tax inspector that you have spent the money you are claiming for these expenses.

One solution to the problem is to carry a little notebook with you and jot down the expenses as they occur. An alternative solution is to keep a sheet of

paper in your office for every month's expenses.

Write down these small items at the end of every day, stapling any receipts you have to the sheet of paper. You can add up these expenses monthly and put them in your accounts book.

If you are registered for VAT, there should be a page in your book set to show the summaries of sales, purchases and amount of VAT payable and collected. Finally, there should be a cash book to show what is put into and goes out of the business bank account. Old cheque books, paying-in books and bank statements should be kept carefully.

If your business is more complicated, you will need more account books. You may also have to launch into double-entry book-keeping. Unless you're a whizz at figures, a sensible move at this stage would be to ask an accountant to set up a system for you and to show you how to use it.

If the accountant proves a broken reed, there are some off-the-peg manual accounting systems for small businesses.

There are two small books which are produced by Collins - *Self-employed Account Book* and *Complete Traders' Account Book*.

Both books cost £10.70 and you should be able to buy them at retailers such as W. H. Smith and Ryman's.

The second of the two books is for cash retail businesses and the first has a heavy content of accounting for sub-contractors.

The FINCO book-keeping system is loose-leaf and the format is flexible to suit most businesses. The instructions are fairly simple. The basic system costs £36 plus VAT.

A system that also saves you time

You can buy it direct from Casdec Ltd (0385 880421).

If you need something more sophisticated than the basic system, further packages, such as sales or purchase ledger, are available from Casdec at extra cost.

The Kalamazoo Small Business Pack could carry your business through from small to medium. It is very comprehensive with detailed instructions. It can save you some time, too, as the system allows you to complete three accounting record tasks in one.

The price is £110 plus VAT. Ring 021-475 2191 for details.

NEW YEAR OFFER FROM M&G

EXTRA UNITS UP TO 5% APRIL 3 UNIT TRUSTS

With over eight hundred unit trusts available and more being launched each month, how do you know which to choose? In reality there are only three basic types of unit trust, and M&G has an outstandingly successful example of each: Recovery Fund for capital growth, Dividend Fund for income, and SECOND General for a balance between income and growth.

You should remember that new funds or funds which suffer a change of management are likely to be more of a gamble than those which can point to a long and successful record. M&G's investment team has remained largely unchanged for many years, and our long-term performance record reflects this. Past performance cannot be a guarantee for the future, but it is usually the best measure you have of a fund's likelihood of achieving its objective.

We are offering an extra 1% unit allocation if you invest £1,000 or more and 2% if you invest £10,000 or more per Fund.

The price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up. This means that unit trusts are a long-term investment and not suitable for money you may need at short notice.

Income DIVIDEND FUND

If you need income which is growing over the years M&G Dividend Fund could be your ideal investment. The Fund invests in a wide range of ordinary shares and aims to provide above average and increasing income which is about 2% higher than the FT Actuaries All Share Index.

Year ended 31 Dec	M&G DIVIDEND	FT ACTUARIES ALL SHARE INDEX	M&G DIVIDEND	FT ACTUARIES ALL SHARE INDEX
1985	£396	£336	£10,000	£10,000
1984	463	403	10,000	10,000
1983	823	871	10,000	10,000
1982	1,660	1,200	24,280	10,000
1 Dec 85	2,278	208	66,400	10,000

NOTES: 1. Figures are in pence per unit. 2. Figures are for the period 1 Dec 85 to 31 Dec 85. 3. Figures are for the period 1 Dec 85 to 31 Dec 85. 4. Figures are for the period 1 Dec 85 to 31 Dec 85.

Growth RECOVERY FUND

M&G Recovery Fund is probably the most successful unit trust ever launched and the price of shares shows how well it has achieved its aim of capital growth. The Fund invests in the shares of companies which have fallen on hard times. Losses must be expected when a company fails to recover but the effect of a turnaround can be dramatic.

Year ended 31 Dec	M&G RECOVERY	FT ACTUARIES ALL SHARE INDEX	M&G RECOVERY	FT ACTUARIES ALL SHARE INDEX
1985	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000
1984	11,780	8,570	11,000	11,000
1983	26,400	11,121	21,283	16,178
1982	29,620	17,287	40,175	25,521
1 Dec 85	55,500	27,551	55,000	39,877

NOTES: 1. Figures are in pence per unit. 2. Figures are for the period 1 Dec 85 to 31 Dec 85. 3. Figures are for the period 1 Dec 85 to 31 Dec 85. 4. Figures are for the period 1 Dec 85 to 31 Dec 85.

FURTHER INFORMATION: On 10th December 1985 offered price and estimated price current yields were:

	Recovery Fund	Dividend Fund	SECOND General
Offered price	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00
Estimated price	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00
Current yield	8.5%	7.0%	4.12%

Prices and yields appear daily in the Financial Times. The difference between the offered price of which you buy units and the bid price at which you sell is normally 6p. An initial charge of 5p is included in the offered price and an annual charge of 1p is deducted from the gross income for income units. A contract note will be sent to you stating exactly how much you owe and the redemption date. Your certificate will follow shortly.

	Recovery Fund	Dividend Fund	SECOND General
Distributions	20 Feb 1986	15 Jan 1986	15 Aug 1985
Next distribution	20 Feb 1986	15 Jan 1986	15 Aug 1985
For new investors	1986	1986	1986

You can buy or sell units on any business day. Contracts for purchase or sale will be due for settlement two to three weeks after the transaction is complete. For the Recovery and Dividend Funds, the price of units is available on request. The price of units for the Recovery and Dividend Funds is available on request. The price of units for the Recovery and Dividend Funds is available on request.

M&G Securities Limited, Three Quays, Tower Hill, London EC3R 6BQ. Tel: 01-485 215. Member of the Unit Trust Association.

SPECIAL OFFER CLOSES 5th APRIL

All applications received by 5th April 1986 will be given an extra 1% allocation of units. This will increase to 2% for applications of £10,000 or more per Fund.

To: M&G SECURITIES LIMITED, THREE QUAYS, TOWER HILL, LONDON EC3R 6BQ. Please invest the sum(s) indicated below in the Fund(s) of your choice (minimum investment in each Fund: £1,000) in ACCUMULATION/INCOME units (delete as applicable). Accumulation units will be issued for Recovery and SECOND and income units will be issued for Dividend. At the price ruling on receipt of this application DO NOT SEND ANY MONEY.

	RECOVERY	DIVIDEND	SECOND
Amount paid in	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00
Amount paid in	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00
Amount paid in	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00

Source: Financial Times. All performance figures include income received net of basic rate tax. The figures for the Recovery and Dividend Funds are 'bid' prices. You should remember that past performance is no guarantee for the future.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Grofund. The ideal place to invest for growth in Europe.

UP 55%* SINCE 1st JANUARY 1985

If you'd invested £1,000 in Grofund European Trust last New Year's Day, you would now be celebrating its growth to £1,550.

We are confident of continuing this progress in 1986. So now is a very good time to invest.

— WE KNOW OUR EUROPE —

As managers of Grofund European Trust we aim to maximise capital growth by seeking out companies with the strongest growth potential.

We know our Europe. Our management is active and flexible. And we are succeeding.

You should remember that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up. However, we believe Grofund European Trust offers excellent potential for long-term growth.

*Offer to offer basis and assuming net income reinvested, to 31st December 1985.

— A GROWTH MINDED GROUP —

Grofund Managers Limited is the unit trust management arm of Allied Irish Investment Bank plc, the merchant banking subsidiary of Allied Irish Banks, with funds under management now totalling £1.5 billion.

IDEAL FOR MONTHLY SAVINGS, TOO

Unlike many other European unit trusts, Grofund European Trust allows you to make monthly contributions.

The minimum is just £20 a month. Tick the box in the coupon for full details.

STATEMENT OF PRICE AND ESTIMATED YIELD

The offer price of Grofund European Trust as at 23rd December 1985 was 92.8p x d. Estimated gross yield was 0.87%. Prices and yields are published daily in the Financial Times and Daily Telegraph.

FURTHER INFORMATION

An annual charge of 1% of the value of each Fund is deducted from the income of the Trusts. The Offer Price of units includes an initial charge of 5p. It may also include a rounding charge of 1p or 1.25p per unit. Unit holders receive their net income from their units twice yearly on 30 June and 31 December together with a tax credit certificate and a half-yearly report. As the income of the Trust has already been taxed, investors paying only the basic rate of tax will normally have no further liability. Remuneration is paid to qualified intermediaries, details are available on request. Applications for Grofund units will be acknowledged by receipt of a contract note. Certificates will follow in four to six weeks. Units will be purchased each dealing day at the ruling bid price, in accordance with the Department of Trade formula, and settlement will be made approximately 7 days after receipt of the remittance certificate. Managers: Grofund Managers Limited, Pinner Hall, 8-9 Austin Friars, London EC2N 2AE. Telephone: 01-988 5317. Trustees: General Accident Assurance and Trust Company Limited, Estates House, 66 Grofund Street, London EC2V 7DH.

To: Grofund Managers Limited, Pinner Hall, 8-9 Austin Friars, London EC2N 2AE. Telephone: 01-988 5317. I wish to invest in the Grofund European Trust at the offer price ruling on the next subscription date. I enclose a cheque for £ _____ (minimum investment £200) payable to Grofund Managers Limited. Please send me further information about Grofund European Trust and your other unit trusts. Monthly Savings Plan. For full details of our Monthly Savings Plan, please tick box. I am interested in investing £ _____ (minimum £20) per month. Name: _____ Address: _____ Postcode: _____ Signature: _____

GROFUND EUROPEAN TRUST

GROFUND. LIVING UP TO ITS NAME.

A member of the Unit Trust Association. A MEMBER OF ALLIED IRISH BANKS GROUP

£20 A MONTH CAN ACCUMULATE A LOT OF MONEY

If you had chosen fifteen years ago to save £20 a month in a building society, and left the interest to accumulate, by 1st October 1985 your total outlay of £3,600 would have built up to £7,192. On the other hand, if you had chosen to save the same amount each month in one of our larger unit trusts, M&G SECOND General Trust Fund, you would have built up an investment worth £15,724, an extra £8,532.

You can start an M&G Unit Trust Savings Plan with as little as £20. You need not subscribe regularly but we strongly recommend that you do so, by completing the Bankers Order form. By saving a regular amount you make fluctuations in the stockmarket work to your advantage because more units are bought when their price is low than when it is high.

Unit Trusts are an excellent method of investing in the various stockmarkets of the world, and are ideal for regular investment over the longer term. They are not suitable for money you may need at short notice.

The price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up.

What you could have accumulated for £20 a month by 1st Oct 1985

Amount paid in	1,000	2,400	3,600
M&G Dividend	2,268	7,300	17,242
M&G Recovery	2,058	8,200	23,813
M&G SECOND	1,960	7,084	19,724
FT Industrial Ordinary Index	2,020	5,789	11,430
Building Society Savings Account	1,481	3,832	7,192

Source: Financial Times. All performance figures include income received net of basic rate tax. The figures for the Recovery and Dividend Funds are 'bid' prices. You should remember that past performance is no guarantee for the future.

TO: M&G SECURITIES LTD, THREE QUAYS, TOWER HILL, LONDON EC3R 6BQ

I wish to subscribe £ _____ (min £20) each month to the M&G Unit Trust Savings Plan and I enclose a cheque (made payable to M&G Securities Limited) for my first subscription of £ _____ (you may wish to start your plan with a lump sum).

I wish my subscriptions to be invested in the Fund circled.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Bankers Order DO NOT DETACH FROM ENROLMENT FORM

Pay to the order of M&G Securities Limited (Savings Plan Account) the sum of £ _____ on the _____ day of _____ 19____.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

The Rules of the Plan are available on request. All the Funds are wider range investments and are authorized by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

The only charges are those you normally pay with unit trusts - 5% included in the initial price of units and up to 1% annually (currently limited to 1% except for International Income Fund which is 1.5% for management. There are no extra charges for this Savings Plan.

You can vary the amount you pay and you are free to cash in your accumulated investment, or part of it, at any time without penalty. The securities in a unit trust are held in safe custody by the Trustee (one of the major banks). You can follow the progress of your plan by looking up the price of units and the current yield in the Financial Times or other leading newspapers. You buy units at the 'offer' price and sell at the 'bid' price.

SAVINGS PLANS FOR CHILDREN

The minimum age for the Unit Trust Savings Plan is 14, but accounts for younger children can be opened in the name of an adult and designated with the child's full name.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

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THE M&G GROUP

RACING

Tom Sharp should cut a dash in testing conditions

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

After all the recent rain the premium will be on stamina today at Newbury where the going is reported to be heavy. So having won over 2½ miles on soft ground at Cheltenham at the beginning of this month Tom Sharp should certainly be running on when others have cried enough and he is napped to win the L'Oréal Handicap Hurdle.

In this sort of ground any pound more than 11st to carry can be an anchor. So in this instance I doubt either Southern Air or Chrysos giving my selection 11lb and 9lb, respectively. The fly in the ointment could turn out to be the bottom weight, Highland Clipper, with Richard Dunwoody in the saddle.



Fred Winter: chance of Newbury double

120 yards is taken to continue his winning way in the Challow Hurdle. I first admired his resolution this season when he won at Warwick on November 28. Next time it was at Cheltenham eight days later when he put 10 lengths between himself and his nearest pursuer on the run-in.

13 lengths behind at the end was Singletooth, who has done the form some good by winning at Folkestone in the meantime. But on a pound worse terms Pam Sly's big horse has a hard task today, even though those two races will have undoubtedly brought him on.

Twelve months ago the Weyhill Handicap Chase was won by Sommelier carrying 10st 10lb. Today the same horse returns to the fray for the same race but with an additional stone on his back. That means he will be meeting Port Askaig, who finished fifth behind him last year, 10 lengths adrift, on 19lb worse terms. So, with Tim Forster's horses now running so well, Port Askaig must go close following that better run at Warwick where he finished third behind Roadster (a winner at Kempton yesterday) and Co Member, who finished second at Wincanton on Boxing Day.

Nevertheless, I still just prefer King's Bishop, who shaped so well after a long absence at Warwick earlier this month when he finished fourth behind Contrade, Catch Phrase and Royscript, who then won easily at Wolverhampton two days ago. To be beaten only five lengths that day was anything but a disgrace.

By the time that King's Bishop goes to post, Ulan Bator's stable companion, could easily have paved the way for a Fred Winter double by winning the Elocot Park Novices' Chase.

Trojan Prince, who missed the last race at Kempton yesterday to wait for the Wickham Novices' Hurdle, is an interesting debutant with good form on the Flat but now I just prefer El Galileo, who also won twice on the Flat but in

mud. More recently he finished third behind That's Your Lot over hurdles at Lingfield Park only to be disqualified simply because his rider failed to weigh in.

At Ayr I expect Hardy Lad to maintain his recent Haydock superiority over Sam Wrekin in the Melleray's Belle Challenge Cup, even on 4lb worse terms.

At Warwick the conditions of the two mile chase are tailor-made to suit a horse of the class of Little Bay, so no wonder has been a professional for the past two years by Gordon Richards.

Acarine, a late defector from the field for the King George VI Steeplechase at Kempton on Boxing Day, turns out for the Edward Courage Cup, but without obvious chance in my opinion of beating Observe who staged such an encouraging comeback after injury at Lingfield when he was runner-up to Maori Venture.

Having gone for Tom Sharp to win the big race at Newbury I feel duty bound to take Gold Tycoon to win the Tiny Tim Handicap Hurdle. From John Spearing's in-form stable, Gold Tycoon ran with a lot of promise in the race that Tom Sharp won at Cheltenham. Also last season he proved that he could cope with the most testing ground. But with a long absence at Warwick earlier this month when he finished fourth behind Contrade, Catch Phrase and Royscript, who then won easily at Wolverhampton two days ago. To be beaten only five lengths that day was anything but a disgrace.



Arbitrage (Peter Scudamore) leads Hot Hand over the last on his way to victory at Kempton (Photograph: Ian Stavert)

Dunwoody ends lean spell with four-timer

By Michael Seely

Richard Dunwoody sent the holiday punters home happy by riding the last four winners at Kempton yesterday. Without a solitary success to his credit since December 6 the 21-year-old jockey completed a 237-4 four-timer on Roadster, Von Trappe, Tagboat and Sylvan Joker.

Von Trappe, the horse on which Dunwoody gained his first Cheltenham Festival success in the Joe Cook Golden Hurdle final last March, gave the rider the 100th victory of his career in the £10,000 Fiddlers' Novices' Chase. He has been a professional for the past two seasons and it was an amateur rider that Dunwoody first hit the headlines with a four-timer at Hereford on March 3, 1984.

Von Trappe was left with a simple task after Peter Deighton and Arctic Stream had fallen at the 9th and 14th fences, respectively. However, the 13-8 favourite is an animal who has to be restrained until the last fence and Dunwoody did not take the lead until the second jump from home. Sprinting effortlessly clear, Von Trappe beat Goldspun by 21 lengths with

Edenspring finishing a length away third.

The Embassy final at Ascot on January 11 is the immediate target for yesterday's fluent winner. "Michael says that Von Trappe is potentially the best horse he has ever trained," Sarah Oliver, the trainer's wife said. "He thinks he's got more class than Master H and West Tip."

Mrs Oliver's lucky for her certainly brought her more fortune than it had at Wolverhampton on Thursday. "Official Dress escaped from the course after falling at the first," she said. "We had an alarming experience chasing him through the city centre in a large bus. We didn't catch him on the Bridgford Road."

The stable has no immediate plan for West Tip, who ran so disappointingly behind Rm and Skip the Welsh National at Chester last Saturday. "Wide hindsight the race probably came a bit soon after Ascot," Mrs Oliver continued. "Both the Gold Cup and Grand National are possible long-term targets, but he's got to have a rest first."

Roadster, Dunwoody's first winner just got the better of an

exciting finish with Hazy Sunset for the Ladbrooke Handicap Chase after the 3-1 favourite had apparently blundered his chance away at the third fence from home.

Formerly with Peter Bailey, the nine-year-old is now trained by his owner-breeders, Colin and Susan Wainwright. This sporting farmer rode 30 point-to-point winners in his younger days. He was unable to go racing on Thursday as he is master of the Old Berkshire Hunt and was attending their Boxing Day meet.

Dunwoody completed his afternoon of glory by giving Philip Mitchell, the cheerful Epsom trainer, a double with Tagboat and Sylvan Joker. Tagboat finished strongly to overhaul Hoarh Henry in the Avenue Handicap Hurdle and the jockey also rode a patient race when capturing the Epsom Novices' Hurdle on Sylvan Joker, after Martello managed to have established an unassailable lead turning into the straight.

The betting story of the afternoon continued the 1988 Grand National. Ladybrooke's reported having led Remy Currier, the husband of Jery Currier, the American woman jockey, a bet of £1,000 at 250-1 against Tom Bob being first past the post at

Aintree in two seasons' time. Bought for £800 Irish points at Ballbridge, Tom Bob has taken the first step to glory by winning a point-to-point in the United States.

Neville Crump enjoyed mixed luck on his 75th birthday at Wolverhampton, leading the 3-1 favourite, Ambulance Novices' Chase with Regington before seeing Glen Cochran take a crashing fall when holding every chance at the last flight of the Kearsburgh Handicap Hurdle, won by Mick's Star.

This proved a race full of incident, with Phil Tuck driving the 11-4 favourite, Mick's Star, to a hazy finish, succumbing over the long-chase, leading the 3-1 favourite, Ambulance Novices' Chase with Regington before seeing Glen Cochran take a crashing fall when holding every chance at the last flight of the Kearsburgh Handicap Hurdle, won by Mick's Star.

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IRISH RACING

Dawn Run boosted by Rainbow Warrior

From Our Irish Correspondent, Dublin

Rainbow Warrior, a faller at the second-last fence when five lengths clear of his field in last year's Findus Handicap Chase at Leopardstown, made amends in this £20,000 sponsored race when making every yard of the running at Leopardstown yesterday to win under 11st 11lb.

After the last fence Rainbow Warrior hung over towards the stands' rail and Fair is Fair, a recent big handicap winner at Fairyhouse, threatened to take advantage of a handsome lead. However, Rainbow Warrior straightened up and went away to win by four lengths.

The significance of this win is to be found in his previous start, for at Punchestown a fortnight ago, Rainbow Warrior had been expected to third place and better a total of 14 lengths by Dawn Run. Reacting to the win of Rainbow Warrior, William Hill shortened the Cheltenham Gold Cup odds of the mare from 7-2 to 3-1.

Rainbow Warrior, who blundered his chances away in the Gold Cup in March, eventually being pulled up, will again be aimed at that race, taking in the Epsom Derby and the Memorial Leopardstown Chase on route.

Cheltenham does not, however, figure on the schedule of the other big race winner yesterday, Barney Burrell, who galloped right away from Weather The Storm and the gambled on favourite, Canute Express, to put eight lengths between himself and the placed horses in the Findus Handicap Hurdle.

My immediate reaction was to mark him down as an obvious Irish challenger for the Sun Alliance Hurdle, but Ruby Walsh, his trainer, quickly scotched any such suggestion.

His owner, Mr Paddy Donohue, "Walsh said, 'has made it a habit to spend each winter in Florida, not returning to Ireland until April. After that he goes to the States and he's not under any circumstances to enter Barney Burrell at Cheltenham lest he should be tempted to break his holiday.'

This afternoon another of Dawn Run's Punchestown victims, Bobbine, will be attempting to further enhance her reputation by winning the Black and White Whiskey Handicap Chase at Leopardstown.

NEWBURY

[Televised: 1.0, 1.30, 2.0, 2.30]

GOING: Soft (Main inspection)

12.30 ELOCOT PARK NOVICES CHASE (E2,175: 3m) (5 runners)

10 0121-06 CHURCH WARDEN (J) Mervin D Murphy 5-11-0 Mr T Thompson Jones 10 0121-06 CHURCH WARDEN (J) Mervin D Murphy 5-11-0 Mr T Thompson Jones 10 0121-06 CHURCH WARDEN (J) Mervin D Murphy 5-11-0 Mr T Thompson Jones

1.0 WEYHILL HANDICAP CHASE (E3,022: 3m) (8)

10 1119-09 SOMMERLEIGH (D) (D) Wether 5-11-0 Mr P Scudamore 10 1119-09 SOMMERLEIGH (D) (D) Wether 5-11-0 Mr P Scudamore 10 1119-09 SOMMERLEIGH (D) (D) Wether 5-11-0 Mr P Scudamore

1.30 L'OREAL HANDICAP HURDLE (E5,017: 2m 100yd) (8)

10 1119-09 SOMMERLEIGH (D) (D) Wether 5-11-0 Mr P Scudamore 10 1119-09 SOMMERLEIGH (D) (D) Wether 5-11-0 Mr P Scudamore 10 1119-09 SOMMERLEIGH (D) (D) Wether 5-11-0 Mr P Scudamore

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NEWCASTLE

[Televised: 1.0, 1.30, 2.0, 2.30]

GOING: Soft (Main inspection)

12.30 PARTIRIDGE NOVICE HURDLE (3-y-o: E960: 2m 120yd) (18 runners)

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TV-am

6.55 Good Morning Britain
presented by Mike Morris.
Weather at 6.58; News at 7.00;
regional report at 7.08; and
sport at 7.15.

7.30 The Wide Awake Club for
children includes news and
weather at 8.25.

TV/LONDON

9.25 Knock Your Block Off. With
punches from Willow Hill and
Larrieham High Schools and
Morecombe High Schools.
Presented by Steve Blackwell.
10.05 Disney at Christmas.
Cartoon.

10.15 Film: Treasures of the Snow
(1980) starring Paul Dean.
Adventure, set in the Swiss
Alps, about a runaway boy
who finds peace in the forests
and friendship with an old
woodcutter. Directed by Mike
Pritchard.

12.00 News. with Trevor McDonald.

12.05 Saint and Greave. Ian and
Jimmy remember the sporting
highlights of the year. 12.30
Wrestling from Battersea
Town Hall.

1.20 Novel. Stringfellow Hawke
goes to the assistance of a
Vietnam War veteran who is
being tortured by a former
Vietnamese warlord.

2.15 International Darts. The MFI
Open, introduced by Clive
Dennis, from the Rainbow
Suite, Kersland.

4.15 Banquo. The governor's man
is told by his girlfriend that she
is accepting a dinner with another
man.

4.45 Results service.

4.50 News.

5.05 Disney at Christmas. Cartoon.

5.15 Copy cats. Items concern
impressions from a host of
minors debated by Bobby
Davies.

5.45 Blind Date. Young people
question one another out of
sight of each other to see who
is most compatible with whom
on a blind date.

6.30 Film: Bronco Billy (1980)
starring Clint Eastwood and
Sondra Locke. Eastwood
plays the owner of a Wild West
Show who has trouble keeping
his men from killing each other
shooting and knife throwing
act. But is seems he is at
hand when he meets an
apparently abandoned and
lonely young woman. Directed
by Clint Eastwood (Oracle).

8.45 News. with Trevor McDonald.

8.00 Blue Money. The story of a
cab driver with a passion for
rock and roll who becomes the
quarry of the Mob, the police
and a psychotic
Glaswegian when stolen
money accidentally falls in his
vehicle. Starring Tim Curry,
Debbie Bishop and Billy
Connolly (P) (Oracle).

**9.35 The Second Best of Splitting
Image.** Highlights of the
award-winning series.

**1.35 LWT News headlines followed
by Timeside.** The Book
of the Week thriller starring
John-Taylor.

12.04 When the Music's Over. Rock
stars of the past three
decades including Chuck
Berry, Elton Presley and Otis
Redding.

2.55 Night Thoughts with Alec
McCown and Paul Mills-
Kingston. Ends at 1.08.



Paul Daniels (ITV, 10.35 pm).

8.55 **Play School**, presented by Wayne Jackson: 9.15 **Archie & Faith**: Charles Elmer examines the Church's interpretations of the Kingdom of God. 9.30 **This is the Day**: a simple service on the theme of Recognizing Christ: from a newswoman's home in Dallas.

10.00 **Aston Magazine**: A musical extravaganza celebrating the new year. 10.30 **See Hear**: Magazine programme for the hearing impaired. 10.55 **The Pink Panther Show**: 11.

11.10 **Film: The Alamo** (1960): starring John Wayne as Davy Crockett leading 187 brave Texans who battled for 13

5.55 Good Morning Britain begins with a 'Thought for a Sunday' cartoon at 7.00; Are You Awake Yet? for the young at 7.15; the What's News quiz at 7.50; Jan Barnet's pick of the week at 8.10; news headlines at 8.27.

8.30 The Sunday Programme presented by David Frost. He guests include Dennis Norden, Joanna Lumley, Derek Jameson and Joe Ashton.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 Wake up London with the Young Boys and The Morning Melodrama Show. Carbons



Ben Kingsley and Ian Charleson
David Essex and (friend: L)

Ben Kingsley and Ian Charleson in the film *Gandhi* (BBC 1, 7.15 pm). And David Essex and friend: *Lyrics* by Tim Rice (ITV, 10.15 pm).

BBC 2

1.00 Continues.

1.30 Choir of the Year 1984.
Highlights of the competition, introduced by Brian Kyte.

1.45 The Wages of Fear.
Cecil De Mille's epic discusses his ultimate chase movie, Fair and Wormer, and waxes lyrical about his favourite character, Popeye the Sailor.

2.10 From Uncle Tom's Cabin (1949)
starring Ingrid Bergman
Joseph Cotten, Michael Wilding and Margaret Leighton. Thriller, set in 1831 New South Wales, about the English son of the state governor who is a guest in the household of a wealthy businessman who was once a convict. The businessman's wife is a alcoholic and appears to live in fear of her housekeeper. Directed by Alfred Hitchcock.

4.08 Film: Macbeth (1948) starring Orson Welles and Jeanette Nolan. An imaginative version of Shakespeare's play, made by Welles in three weeks.

5.50 Great Western Journey.
A salute to the Great Western Railway which was born 150 years ago (p).

7.00 News and sport. With Jan Leeming, Weather.

7.20 Yeoman of the Guard.
A documentary about the Queen's bodyguard on the 500th anniversary of its commencement. Written and narrated by Ian Wootton.

8.45 Pennybiter, by William Jones. A 19th century play in Welsh with English subtitles, about three leading members of the Welsh Nationalist Party who, in 1936, were responsible for setting fire to buildings and burning down the RAF camp at Penrhos near Pwllheli. The programme follows the three men through their arson attacks and their trials. Starring Owen Garrison, Dyfan Roberts and John Jones.

10.25 The Taking of Pelham 123 (1974) starring Warren Matthew, Robert Shaw and Martin Balsam. Thriller about a gang of armed men who hijack a New York subway train. Their demand is one million dollars to be delivered within an hour. One passenger will be murdered for each minute the ransom money is late. Matthew plays the police lieutenant who has the job of convincing the gang leader by Joseph Sargent. Ends at 12.10.

CHANNEL 4

11.00 *Christ Stopped at Eboli*. Part three of the four-episode adaptation of Francesco Rosi's film released in 1979, set in West Italy in 1925. Starring Gian Maria Volontè and Irene Pappas.

11.50 *Film: Terminus* (1960). John Schlesinger's documentary about a day in the life of a station.

12.30 *Channel Four Racing from Newcastle*. The 12.45, 1.15 and 1.45 races from Ayr, and the 1.00, 1.30 and 2.00 races from Newcastle.

2.10 *Film: The London Nobody Knows* (1987). John Huston is the guide for this documentary based on the best-selling book by Geoffrey Fletcher about London's hidden places. Directed by Norman Cohen.

3.05 *Film: The Story of Gilbert and Sullivan* (1953) starring Robert Morley and Maurice Evans. Lawley biography of the storm partnership between the composer and the librettist. Directed by Sidney Salati.

5.00 *Brookside* (in Oracles).

5.30 *The Puppet Man*. The final programme of the series starring Roy Hudd as Walter Wilkinson, an author and puppeteer who wrote about his period in 1925 when he lived in the Welsh country house.

6.00 *News summary and weather* followed by *A Frame With David*. Steve Davis is joined by Lennie Bennett and Derek Jackson (Oracles).

7.15 *Film: The Far Country* (1956) starring James Stewart, Ruth Roman and Virginia Mayo. Western adventure about a cattleman and his partner who drive a herd of cattle from Wyoming to the Dawson gold fields. Directed by Anthony Mann.

9.00 *Film: Don Giovanni* (1979) starring Ruggero Raimondi, Valeria Marini, Edda Moser and Teresa Berganza. Mozart's dramatic opera about the legendary lover who attempts to seduce the Commendatore's daughter and is challenged to a duel by her outraged father. Directed by Joseph Losey.

12.00 *Emma Thompson: Up For Grabs*. Comedy sketches featuring one of the most successful of the recent crop of Hollywood actresses. With Denise LaSalle, Mary Kingston, Phyllide Law and Stephen Moore. Ends at 1.00.

free their state from the Mexicans. With Richard Widmark, Laurence Harvey and Edward G. Robinson. Produced and directed by John Wyer.

1.55 News headlines with *J&L*
Learning Weather. 2.05
EastEnders. A comic actor at the week's episodes (Coefax).

2.30 The Adventures of *Robin Hood* (1938) starring Errol Flynn, Olivia de Havilland, Basil Rathbone, Claude Rains and Alan Hale. Swashbuckling adventures with Robin having a good time as the legendary Sherwood Forest outlaw. Directed by Michael Curtiz.

4.0 The Christmas Rock Gospel Show, presented by Sine A Wilson. Akin: Sheryl Crow, Paul Jones and his wife, Rory Hendley, Lon Santon, Russ Taft and the London Community Gospel Choir.

6.15 Earthshaker, a BBC2 television film. Link and starring Max Wall as seven different characters as he and nine-year-old Lynne Ratford are transported by hot air balloons over the Atlantic, across the ocean and can reach the Star of Bethlehem. The journey takes them through forests, beaches, under the earth and beneath the sea. The sea and the ability to an ethyl valley visited by angelic children.

5.55 Oliver Twist. The final episode and the police close in on Bill Sikes, wanted for the murder of Nancy. Starring Eric Porter, Frank Melford and Michael Caine (Coefax).

6.25 News with Jan Leeming. *Weather*.

6.35 Songs of Praise from Trafalgar Square where supporters of Christian Aid and the Catholic Fund for Overseas Development are singing carols in raised funds for the starving in East Africa. (Coefax).

7.15 Film: Gandhi (1982) starring Ben Kingsley in the title role. Sir Richard Attenborough's portrait of the life of the great Hindu leader begins with Gandhi's experiences of hardship when in Southern Africa as a young advocate in 1893. His struggle to change the system by peaceful means forms part of a series of peaceful protests culminating the successful withdrawal of the British Raj from India. The spectacular production won eight Oscars including one for Best Picture (Coefax).

8.40 The

11.20 **Working Wonders.** Fantasy film. Directed by Mary's Parish Church, Wenvoe, near Cardiff. 11.00 Talking On. Gail Reynolds talks to Dorothy Knowles about how she has made a modelling career as progressed since she was last on the programme. Beryl Banbridge judges the Gentry. Or poetry completion, and the Poet of 1984 and 1985 are interviewed.

11.20 **Blind Faith.** Two blind people raise a sailing course organized by the Royal Yachting Association Sailing Foundation.

12.00 **The Smurfs.** Cartoon. 12.15 **Fims: The Great Muppet Caper.** (1981) The Muppets, in London on the trail of jewel thieves, are joined by Diana Rigg, David Jason and, in a fiery, Peter Ustinov and Peter Falk. Directed by Jim Hanks.

2.00 **LYNEs headlines:** following LWF News: *The Cradle* leaves behind *Magnum* and *Argus* beneath the surface of the Northumbrian fishing and farming village.

2.30 **Film: Starlight One - The Flight That Didn't Happen.** (1982) A made-for-television production about a plane on a record-breaking trans-Pacific flight that is sent hurtling into space by a mystery explosion. Starring Lee Majors, Hal Linden, Lauren Hutton and Richard Dreyfuss. Directed by Jarmy Janssen.

4.30 **Golden Pemmies.** Drama series set in 19th century Australian goldfields.

5.00 **Bulleye.** Darts and general knowledge game.

5.30 **Legend on Ice - A True Gift of Christmas.** Ice skating in the tradition of myths and legends concerning Christmas. With Robin Cousins and Toller Cranston.

6.30 **News.**

6.40 **Highway.** Sir Harry Secombe visits Strabane.

7.15 **Sixty Tiny Fingers.** Michael Aspel presents a programme about the Walton sextuplets at Marseilles.

8.15 **92 Governor Street.** starring Hal Holbrook and David McCallum. Second World War drama about two teams of espionage agents sent to Norway to prevent a physicist from bringing giving the Germans the secrets of atomic power (Oracle).

10.00 **News.**

10.15 **Lyrics by Tim Rice.** A showcase of songs written by Tim Rice.

BBC 2

9.00 Cezais.

11.40 Champion, The Wonder Horse in *True Deer Hunter* 1911.

12.05 Windmill. Chris Serle dips into the archives to find film on food. With clips from programmes featuring Philip Larkin, Zens Skinner, Fanny Craddock, and guest nutritionist Mauds. Pyke.

1.05 States of Mind. Dr Jonathan Miller in conversation with Clifford Tarr, Professor of Social Science at Princeton.

1.55 Film: The Lady from Shanghai (1948) starring Rita Hayworth and Orson Welles. Michael O'Hare: English sailor becomes involved in murder when he crosses with the yachting set and in particular Elsa Barnard, and her cannibal husband, Arthur. Directed by Orson Welles.

2.30 Aladdin and the 40 Thieves. Musical pantomime 1911.

4.20 Under Sail. The final programme of the series features the yachtsmen of the River Crouch in Essex who sail Royal Corinthian One Design.

4.48 Film: Bridge on the River Kwai (1957) starring Alec Guinness, Peter O'Toole and Jack Hawkins. Second World War drama about Allied servicemen in a Japanese prisoner-of-war camp in Burma and their task of building a railway bridge for their captors. Directed by David Lean.

7.15 The Royal Ballet in The Nutcracker. Lesley Collier and Anthony Dowell star in this production by Peter Wright of Tchaikovsky's Christmas ballet. With Orina of the Royal Opera House, conducted by Gennadi Rozhdenskiy.

8.55 The Natural World: The Planet Hunters. Three stories, from Israel, Nepal and the United States about planetary efforts to save unknown plants that may be of considerable benefit to mankind.

9.40 Comrades. This seventh in the series of 12 film portraits of today's Russians spotlights Mikhail Gorbachev and his son Yura who live and work in the Yalta forest.

10.20 Submarines at War. As a preview to next week's showing of *The Boat*, the classic German film about life under sea. British submarine rescue experience 1911.

11.00 Film: Serpico (1973) starring Al Pacino as a crusading undercover policeman whose

CHANNEL 4

11.00 Christ Stopped at Eboli. The fourth and final part of the adaptation of Francesco Rosi's film about a young Italian doctor who is banished to a remote mountain village because of his opposition to fascism. Starring Gian-Marco Volonte and Irene Paresi.

11.55 The World of Women's Gelf. Highlights of the British, European and United States women's Openis.

12.40 Chivalry of Heaven. The story of David Wynne, a controversial sculpture. Rsc Film: (r)

1.45 Film: Folly to be Wise (1955) starring Alastair Sim as a chaplain and newly-appointed administrator of a large army camp who decides to organize a brass band to win a panel of local worthies into his manship. Directed by Frank Launder.

3.15 Film: Fights the Thirteenth (1933) starring Susan Hale, Jesse Matthews, Emyln Williams and Ralph Richardson. Several of their people are injured when they buy oranges. The film is set in the 1920s 24 hours in their lives that ended with them all on the same bus. With Max Miller, Robertson Hare and Frank Lawton. Directed by Victor Kille.

5.00 Chien 2000. The third programme in the series of four focuses on eight children who spend their day caring for others their home and family (Oracle).

6.00 American Football. Dallas Cowboys versus the San Francisco 49ers.

7.15 News summary and weather followed by *Debaszaville*, a documentary about the small community of Maharashtra marathon runners who deliver more than 100,000 letters in boxes a day to their customers in Bombay.

8.30 Astonishing Dances. Izchak Perlman and Pinchas Zukerman in the first of two programmes in which they play works for two violins, or two violas. Among the works they play are *Caprice for Two Violins* by Vivaldi and the *Pasodoble for Viola and Violab* by Handel/Halvorsen.

8.30 The Myseries: The Passion. The second and last of the award-winning trilogy adapted from the medieval English mystery plays by Tony Harrison.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; Radio 2: 893kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m; VHF 80-92.5; Radio 4: 1500kHz 1500m; VHF 82-96; LBC 1152kHz/281m; VHF 97.3; Capital: 1548kHz/194m; VHF 95.8; BBC Radio London 1458kHz/206m; VHF 94.9; World Service MF 548kHz/483m.

[illegible]

5.31 The Forsythe Saga (15); 5.30
Wilde and the Boy: The Trials
of Wilde; Sports roundup.
5.32 Paul Temple and The Geneva
Mystery (3). See You in London
(1).

6.00 Edwin and Wile. The story of the
marriage between the poet Edwin
Muir and his wife, Helen Wyle.
6.15 The Doctor, Richard Baker
and Records.

6.30 Saturday Night Theatre. Season's
opening by Alan Ayckbourn
with Peter Vaughan, Ronald
Harwood, Maggie McCarthy and
Heather Bell in the large cast.
6.45

7.00 Evening Service.

7.05 Once Upon a Time.
Aubrey Woodin with Margaret
Howard, John Thompson, Richard
Baker and others (1).

7.10 News clip of the hour. Repeat of
the 10.15 news at broadcast (1).

7.30 The Never Again Show. Brian
Johnston casts a jaundiced eye
on the business of Christmas
with Brenda Blethyn, John Glover
and Robert Hawker.

7.50 News. Weather. 7.53 Shipping.
7.55 The World of David and 3
Wales only. 8.05-8.06
Weather. Travel.

Radio 3

8.55 Radio 7. 9.00 News.

9.05 Auldre Gink's
Karamazovs' fantasy on two
Russian themes (Smo State PC)
Kodaly's The Shepherd King
(Smo State SO); Simeon's Four
French Folk Songs (Tr, tenor;
Walsh, guitar); Dukas's The
Sorcerer's Apprentice
(Rotterdam PC); Grovlez's
L'Alchemiste (Images (Wilson,
tr, piano); 9.45
Tale of Ter Sultan (Scottish
National); Bruhn's (Vocal
Record No 1 (Ryngwold
Records) 9.50 News.

10.00 Concert. The year's best
records, selected by Richard
Baker, and the year's best
albums, chosen by Rodney
Miles, and John Warrack.
With Paul Vaughan.

10.15 Stanzo Rossini: Verdi's Dori
and a Dulcina (Van Dam,
baritone; Baldwin, piano); Elgar's
Violin Concerto (Kennedy, with
LPO).

10.20 Royal Liverpool PO (under
Janowski), with Gordon Hunt
(soprano). Part one, Gluck's Overture
in A-flat; Verdi's Oboe Concerto
in F major, 1814.

10.53 This Sporting Life: talk by Tom
McNab, novelist and former
Olympic coach.

11.00 Concert. Part two of Bruhn's
Symphony No 9.3. 1.10 News.

11.15 Heinrich Schütz, Hanover for text
of Psalm 118, [singing] London

2.30
 5.00
 5.45
 6.30
 6.50
 7.30
 8.35
 8.55
 10.30
 11.00
 11.40
 11.57

Are Gallies: French music
 Chabrier's Esplanade (French
 Orchestra)
 Poème de l'amour et de la mer
 (Norman, soprano/Monte Carlo
 Philharmonic), Suite 4
 Debussy's Récueil (Régis, baritone/
 Debussy's String Quartet in G
 minor (Chimpenier), Faun's 5 Cinq
 mélodies de Verlaine (Krumpholtz)
 Debussy's piano: Debussy's
 Arlequin octaves; Il pleure dans
 mon cœur, and other songs
 (Amara; piano: Balogh)
 Debussy's Prelude à
 l'après-midi d'un faune (Paris
 Orchestra)
 Debussy's Scarlatti keyboard
 sonatas, for piano and
 harpsichord, in G, K 266-67;
 in E minor, in E major, K 304;
 in G, K 423. Also Brahms's
 Unbewußtend, Op 72 No 5
 (Fischer; Deutsche, baritone;
 Sauerland, piano)
 Jazz Record Requests with
 Peter Cayton
 English: English Music
 Billington, Christopher Cook,
 Richard Cook, Christopher
 Durrant and Gillian Reynolds
 look back on 1985
 Music for the Iron Voice: David
 Mungis at the organ of
 Westminster Cathedral. Works by
 Dupré, Norman, Nibelle,
 Tournemire, Vienna, and
 Tournemire (T. Deane)
 Theatrical: Handel's three-act
 oratorio, With Norma Burrows in
 the title role. And with
 Constanza Frezzolini, Paul Eswood
 conductor; Philip Langridge
 tenor; Michael Rippon (bass)
 Director: Oliver Croft
 Davies Director conducts Wilfred
 Bach Festival Choral and
 instrumental ensembles
 As Others Saw Us: 16th century
 views of life, in Britain, by Voltaire
 and others
 Theatrical: Second and third
 acts
 Hiding behind his Camera: An
 interview with the photographer
 David Hurn. The interviewer is
 Colin Firth
 Interview: The Cologne Junger
 Goebel, violin; Sonatas in G
 minor, BWV 1021; Trio Sonata in
 G, BWV 1038; and Suite in G
 major, BWV 1079, (heavily
 by Bach's sons and pupils)
 Are you Still Awaiting? Two-
 hander, with Edward
 Petherbridge and Emily Richard
 12.00
 News. 12.00 Close-down.

Radio 2
 News on the hour until 1.00pm, then
 3.00, 6.00, 7.00, and hourly from 10.00.
 Headlines 12.00pm, 7.30p. Major bulletins
 12.00pm, 1.00pm, 7.00pm. Sports
 11.00am, 11.20am, 12.00pm.

[illegible]

14:35 Weather.
On long wave. Also VHF stereo.
6.55 Shipping.
6.00 News Briefing.
6.00 Prelude 1.
6.00 Morning Has Broken. 8.55
Weather; Travel.
7.30 News. 7.10 Sunday Papers. 7.15
Aldous Huxley. 7.45
Leaves. 7.55 Turning Over New
Leaf. 7.58 Weather; Travel.
8.00 News. 8.10 Sunday Papers. 8.15
Sunday. A look at the "Sunday"
programmes of 8.30.
8.30 Leslie Crowther appeals for
cash to finance research and
education about the disease. 8.45
Weather; Travel.
8.55 News. 9.10 Sunday Papers.
9.15 Medical Service. From the English
Methodist Church, Old Colwyn,
North Wales.
10.00 The Angels. Omnibus edition.
11.00 News Review of the Year. Phil
Longman reviews the big news
events of 1995.
12.00 News. 12.10 Minute. Nicholas
Parsons charts the panel game.
Weather. Peter Jones, Kenneth Frazer
and John Smith and Kenneth
Williams 1.
12.30 Gypsy Galore. Deryck Gwyler's
5.00 entertainment
in 11.25-12.55.
1.00 The World This Weekend: News.
1.35 Shipping.
2.00 The Great Question Time.
Questions from Braddley and
David Almond Association and
Garden Society.
Northamptonshire, answered by
Geoffrey Smith, David Watkins
and Brian Sutcliffe. The
chairman is Clay Jones.
2.35 The Afternoon Play: "Passion
Flower Hotel" by Rosalind
Wiseman. 4.10 For the
5.00 News; Talking About Amusements.
Bernard Price and John Byrne.
5.00 News; questions
5.05 Kaleidoscope: Alan Ayckbourn.
Paul Allen examines the work of
the playwright with actors. Mandy
Patinkin, John Wood, Richard
Briers, Penelope Keith, Sir Peter
Hall and Lavinia Barnett (1).
5.05 News; questions
5.10 Winter Solstice. With the voices
of Diane Oliver, Paul Young and
Michael Elton (1).
5.35 The News. 5.40 News. (1). 5.50
Shopping. 5.58 Weather.
6.00 News.
6.15 Radio 4 Christmas Concert.
A special change to hear the choir
just the Job. The model: Delta
Georgiou.
6.30 Bookshelf. Hunter Davies and
Alan Strathairn discuss
shopping books of the year.
7.00 Travel: The Mystery of the Suez
Train by Angela Christie, in situ

parts (1). With Janet Maw and Robert Beatty.

7.30 Round Britain Co's. *There's a Good Turn in Every Road* (John Challinor, Bill Russell and Jack Jones).

8.00 *Pick of the Year*. Margaret Thatcher's highlights. 1988 (1).

8.15 *The Week*. The Scratchbox Cakes by Honore de Balzac, in four parts (1). With Anne Louise Lambert and John Shear heading the cast. 5.58 Weather.

10.30 News.

10.15 *Horizons*. Brian Redhead reports on unemployment.

10.30 *My Mary and the Inchmaddy*. With the Rt Rev Michael Baughen. 5.58 Weather.

11.15 *The Countryside in Winter*. With Wynford Vaughan-Thomson (1).

12.00 *Antiques Roadshow*. 5.53 Shopping. VHF available in some areas. 5.58 Weather only. 5.55 & 6.00m Weather; Travel.

Radio 3

6.55 *Weather*. 7.00 News.

7.30 Count of Mannheim. J. Stamitz's *Anders und die Schone* (1).

8.00 *(Paradise State GC)*: K Stamitz *Over Quarter in E flat*, Op 8 (4) N. Anderson in S. Op. 40 (1).

8.15 Zuckerman, viola; Harrell, cello; J. Stamitz's *Orchestra Trio in B flat*, Op 1 (1) 5.58 (Camerata Berni, A. S. Synthesis in S. Op. 40 (1)).

8.30 *(Paradise State GC)*: K Stamitz *Can Canata*; the No 122 *(Virtu Concertus)* *Rock Boys' Choir* (soloists).

8.15 Beethoven. *Deine Streng* *quage* *Spring Concerto* in E minor, Op 58 No 2. 8.00 News.

9.00 *Your Concert Choice*: Chopin's *Ballade in G*, Op. 37 No 3 (1).

9.15 *Antiques Roadshow*. *Piano Trio No 2 in E flat*, Op 929 (*Isotomus* present). Rosa, cello; Dvorsky's *Spring Waltz* (Bavarian RSQ).

10.30 *Music Weekly*: a selection of items from the year.

11.00 *Programmes*. Presenter: Michael Oliver.

11.30 Haydn and Schubert: Mikulski *Symphony No 3* with Harnett Hall (piano). Haydn's *canzeta Annata* (Maw); Schubert's *Der Jungling im Wald* (Auf der Heide).

12.15 *Bright conducts Mozart*: with Richter (piano), English Chamber Orchestra. Part 1 of *Don Giovanni* and *Pugue in C minor*, K 546; *Piano Concerto No 22 in E flat*, K 482.

1.00 *Words*: talk by Roy Gifford.

1.30 *Words*: talk by Roy Gifford.

1.45 *British Politics*. Science.

1.55 *Bright conducts*: part 2.

2.00 *Mozart's Symphony No 48*.

2.15 *Bright conducts*: part 3.

2.30 *Kirkpatrick (hardship)* *the Partes No 4 in D*. BWV 825.

Ends at 12.40

2.25 Carmen: Burel's solo act opera singing in French. Herbert von Karajan conducts the Vienna Philharmonic. Salzburg Festival concert choir, Vienna State Opera Chorus, and *Tenets Boys' Choir*. With Agnes Baltsa in the title role and Jose Carreras (as Don José), Jose van Dam (Escamillito) and Janet Parnell (Micaëla). Act one at 8.32, act two at 9.07, act three and four at 9.45, with merval readings.

6.15 New Prizeless: Stephen Games airs magazine.

6.50 Gabrielle: Duetted Schubert's Quartet-movement in C minor, D 703; Nicholas Maw's Quartet No 2. Ravel's Quartet in F.

7.30 The Pigaro Play: All That Trouble for Nothing – the first production in the Beaumarchais Trilogy, translated by John Wells. Directed by John Wells. Gary Bond, Nickolas Grace, Dorothy Tutin, Michael Aldridge, Peter Pratt, and John Wood. With Agnès Baltsa, Acree and Arnold Diamond. Part one at 8.30, after a musical interval.

8.30 BBC Philharmonic (under Downes), with Igor Oistrakh (violin); Beethoven's 'Lacina No 2'; Mozart's 'Symphony No. 35 Concerto No 2.' Ravel's 'Daphnis et Chloe, suite No 2.'

10.20 Chopin: Peter Katin (piano) plays Introduction and Variations in E flat, Op 12; Nocturnes, Op 55: No 1 in F minor; and No 2 in E flat: 2 octave. Prokofiev's Violin Concerto No 2; Ravel's 'Daphnis et Chloe, suite No 2.'

11.00 Arvo Part: Tabula Rasa: Concerto for two violins, string orchestra and prepared piano. Ermi and Erich Schenk (violins), Harald Osberger (cello) [twentieth-century European music]. Vienna, under Burwitz.

11.40 Ars Una Still Awake?: two-handed set for the clock, Edward Petruschke and Emily Richard Jr.

11.57 News. 12.00 Closedown.

Radio 2

News on the hour (except 8.00pm).
8.00pm 7 Days: Today's main headlines.
8.10pm 7 Days: midnight Sports desk
12.02pm, 5.02, 10.02
William Allen Jones, 6.00 Sieve
Travis, 6.00 Boyz n the Hood
Morning Sunday, 6.00 Melodies
You (Robin Bell), 11.00 Desmond
Carrington with Radio 2 A-Time Great
1.00pm Ray Macon presents Two's Best.
1.30pm The Big Top Show. David

[illegible]

CINEMAS

ACADEMY 1. 437 2881. REUBEN,
EICHEN C'S at 2.30 (not sat), 4.30,
6.40 & 9.50.
ACADEMY 2. 437 8159. Baby's
First Kiss, The. EICHEN C'S at 2.30,
VENUE 11B. PROPS 8.50, 4.10, 6.50,
8.35, Sun at 1.10, 3.50, 6.30.
A.C.A.B. 437 8159. A.C.A.B., THE
WANDERERS & Grand Highway
O.P.O. Props 1.00, 4.10, 6.50. Cinema
closed Sat 2.30-2.50.

BARBICAN CINEMA. 01-699 8704.
Student reduces at all parts. Tickets
bookable. Today Men's Cafe 4-12 year
old Members' hours. THE CASE
BEARS OJ at 11.00 & 2.30. Tom 7.00,
8.15/7.50, 2.00, 4.15, 6.45, 9.15.
Sun 1.10, 3.45, 6.15, 8.45, 11.00.
THE NUTTING INN. Cinema & Music
Club. 437 8159. The Nutting Inn
DAILY 3.00. THE STORY OF THE
LOVE AFFAIRMENT 4.15;
THE DEATHS

CAMDEN PLAZA 488 3443 (Opp Camden Times) A 250 & PWFO
BOUGHTS (15), Film at 1.45, 4.00, 6.20, 8.40.

CHELSEA CINEMA 551 3742 Kings Road (nearout Tube) A 250 & 2
Polar (15), Film at 1.45, 4.00, 6.20, 8.40. Seats bookable for last eve part.

CURVE MAYFAIR, Curzon Street, 499 3757. Paid Success Starts Schell, from 10.00. Drama Quick as a Whisk (15), Film at 2.00 (not Sat) 4.10, 6.20 & 8.40.

CURZON WEST END, Shaftesbury Avenue, 499 4806. Cinema. Screen. New Cinema in TURTLE BAY. (15). Film at 2.00 (not Sat) 4.10, 6.20 & 8.40. Seats bookable at 5.00 for 8.40 part sat.

LICHTENSTADT SQUARE THEATRE 930
8252 info 930 4267/4269
CLASH (R) 1989 VHS Robert Rodriguez
(PG) Sep prod rating 1.0 1.40 6.20
8.50 Late Night Shows Fri &
Sat 1.40 All prog bookends in
advance.

MEDINA KNIGHTSBOROUGH 736
4258. Jury Prize winner *Chatter*
Festival '88. Screen Scribe's
COLUMBINE (R) (18) unrated daily
2.30, 6.50, 8.50. *Jaws* Fri & Sat
1.40. *Star Trek II: The Wrath of*
Khan (PG) 1.40. *Grease* (PG)
unrated PG Limited. *Soyuz &*
Comintern (G) 1.40.
Bookings for eve prgs advised.

GORDON LICHTENSTADT SQUARE (930
6111) info 930 4267/4269
CLASH (R) 1989 VHS Robert Rodriguez
CLASH (R) The Movie (C) in 70mm.
Sep prod. Doors open Daily 1.30.
All prog bookends in advance.
Access and Visa phone
bookings welcome. Credit Card
orders by phone. \$3.00
cash available Monday on perps.

LUNAR ECLIPSE 379 3014-836
0691 St Martin's Lane WCH (LCC)
12.00. **THE 12TH ANNUAL**
A ZED AND TWO WIGTCHES (15)
Film at 1.45, 4.00, 6.00, 8.45. LIC
12.00. **THE 12TH ANNUAL** for **2000**.

GEORGE HAYMARKET 380 8730
JACK WICKERSON. **AS FLEW**
TURNER PRIZE'S HONORABLE (15)
Film at 1.45, 4.00, 6.00, 8.45.
LIC 12.00. **THE 12TH ANNUAL** for **2000**.
All seats booked in advance. Access
to all inclusive bookings
welcome.

GEORGE HAYMARKET 379 3014-836
Walt Disney Pictures presents **THE**
12TH ANNUAL for **2000**.
Doors open Daily 2.00, 6.00, 7.45.
Reduced prices for under 16s.
Student card holders, U950 holders.
O.A.P.

SCREEN AT THE ELECTRIC 229
"NEW" BEAUTIFUL LAUREN
DOLBY DIGITAL 11.00, 6.00, 8.00.
9.00. Seats available.

SCREEN ON BAKER ST. 3:36 2772
113 The Power of Love
masterpiece
1975
COLONEL BLIMP (ul)
4.00, 7.35
C. 1.45, 4.40, 5.55, 8.00 Fri, Sat 11.15.
SCREEN ON ISLINGTON GREEN
225 550
"BACK TO THE FUTURE" Fri
Dorothy Sayers, 1.40, 3.55, 6.30, 8.45.
SCREEN ON THE HILL 4:35 5346
My Beautiful Laundrette 1189
2.45, 4.50, 6.55, 8.50, Fri/Sat 11.15.
Seahs bookable.

ART GALLERIES

ARTISTS' MUSEUM, BRITISH
LIBRARY, CHURCH STREET, W.C.1.
BUDDHISM
Mon-Sat 10.45-5.00, Sun 2.30-6.00. Adm.
free. Chavall 1 Jan.

BARRICAN ART GALLERY, Barukin Centre, 225, 1-638 Hill St., Unit 56, Jan. 1980. *NINHOGA*, Contemporary Japanese painting in traditional style, 1970-1979. 100 works by 100 artists to Kansaiji Ninnyo, an exhibition of antique "roboto" in the Barricane Concourse Gallery, 100-125 1-108m, Sun & 8 Hols 12am-7pm, Part of Tokyo Triad, a division in Japan Today, a festival of traditional Japanese culture in the Barricane Centre including films and paper exhibitions.

HAYWARD GALLERY (arts Council South Bank, London SE1), *HOMAGE TO JAPANESE*, 1979, and *TORIGATAI* (GARCIA) until 23rd Feb. Adm £2.50. All day Mon. and Sat. 10am-5pm and 12-6pm. 11.50. Recorded info 01-261 0122 Mon-Fri 10-8; Thurs 10-6. Sat 12-6. Closed 1 January.

NATIONAL GALLERY. Trafalgar Square, London WC2, 01-4239 3321. 10.30-5.30. MON-SAT. YEAR-ROUND. EVENTS for all ages, Quizzes, talks & a nativity video. Adm. free. Mon-Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4. Closed 1 Jan.

NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY. St. Martin's Place, London WC2. Tel 01-930 1362. Hatterfield House. A celebration of his life and times. Until 23 Feb. Adm. £2. STARS OF BRITISH CINEMA: 1930s to 1960s. Until 23 Feb. Adm. free. 10-5. Sun 10-5. Sun 2-5. Closed 1 Jan.

SERPENTINE GALLERY. (Arts patronised) Kensington Green, London W2. Recorded info 01-723 8075. YOLANDA SONNABEND: Stone Dealer & Paintings. Until 1 Jan. Daily 10-4. Adm. free. Closed 1 Jan.

THE QUEEN'S GALLERY Buckingham Palace, London W1. Tel 01-675 4000. Sun 2.00-6.00. Adm. 60p & £1.

TATE GALLERY, Millbank SW1:
KURT SCHWITTERS: Until 6 Jan.
12.50, Wed. 10.45, Sat. 8.00.
5.90, Closed 1 Jan. Recorded info.
01-821 7128.

VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM:
The Nation's Treasure House, S.
Consistent, Stable of Style: Great
Fashion Photographs by Helmut
David Bailey. Men from Radio
2. From 12.50, Closed 1 Jan. 8.00.
Recorded info. 01-561 4054.

WHITENAPEL ART GALLERY,
London E1. 01 577 0156. Tel.
01 577 0156. Closed 1 Jan.
FAM. FAMILY DAYS 2, 3, 5 & 4 Jan.
11.00, Tue to Sat 11.45 incl. MW
1.00. DAY'S 11.00, Sat 8.00.
Closed Mon. Adm. free. Recorded inf.
017 0107.

Also on pages 24 & 32

Also on pages 24 & 32

Letter from Eastern Europe
Where mothers are a reluctant breed

The Polish cross-frontier black marketer has to be sensitive to social trends. For some years he has been smuggling the mild antibiotic streptomycin into Romania, presenting it as a birth control pill. Vast quantities have been sold to shady, colleagues in Bucharest and on the Black Sea coast. Contraceptives are banned in Romania.

In spite of this Polish rule, the birth rate in Romania is alarmingly low. Indeed, most Soviet bloc countries are facing the same problem.

Unless the women of Cluj and Dresden, even Kiev, can be sweet-talked, bribed or cajoled into multiple pregnancies, Communist countries will face an acute shortage of manpower, draining their industries and their armies.

Poland has the opposite problem. Unless the authorities can convince the devoutly Catholic Poles to permit their families there will be an intolerable strain on housing, schools and hospitals.

Communism, as every Young Pioneer knows, runs according to plan. Five-year, annual, monthly or weekly targets dominate existence, yet the most important plan of all family planning, seems to elude the authorities' grasp.

The Romanian leader, Mr Nicolae Ceausescu, is, however, a man who will take where a ban on contraceptives, but abortions also are outlawed for women with fewer than four children.

An exception is made for rape victims and in cases of serious illness, but even then doctors are nervous of terminating pregnancies. Abortions face: hefty prison sentences.

The Politburo, dominated by Mr Ceausescu and his wife, Elena has decided that such sanctions are not enough. It has boosted a monthly fine on childless families from about 10 per cent of the average wage (3,000 lei or £185) to about 15 per cent.

Doctors have been given the specific responsibility of investigating and reporting on the reasons for miscarriages. The authorities suspect that some gynaecologists are inducing miscarriages in return for bribes. Checks on women during pregnancy are also to be stricter.

Mr Ceausescu has declared that there should be between 19 and 21 births for every 1,000 of the population by 1990 and the number of Romanians should grow from about 22 million to 24 million in the same period.

In 1983 Romania recorded 14.3 births for every 1,000 of the population, one of the lowest rates in its post-war history. The rate has improved slightly.

Other Communist countries in a similar situation, such as East Germany, are trying to solve the problem with generous maternity leave and child allowances.

Academic studies in Eastern Europe, however, seem to favour the theory of a certain Professor Leibenstein, whose premise is that children compete with the desire for consumer durables.

So child allowances, however generous, cannot be the decisive factor in a relatively well-stocked economy. In East Germany, with spin driers and washing machines in the shops, there is more incentive for women to carry on working.

Mrs Krystyna Sozczka, from the village of Szezyniki in southern Poland, shows that the reverse can also be true. In times of economic crisis it may be best to stay at home and breed.

She is aged 44 and last year gave birth to her 21st child.

The child benefits amount to a small fortune by Polish standards certainly more than she can earn in her job as a kitchen help and she has been on maternity leave for almost 20 years.

An extreme example, of course. A more typical attitude is expressed by a woman in her twenties with a third child on the way. "I don't have any hopes that my children will be well off. I can't really give them much, but I think it will be easier for us to live in bigger groups, among people we know and trust."

That sounds rather like the political and personal philosophy of the Solidarity leader, Mr Lech Walesa. His wife, Danusia, is expecting her eighth child.

Roger Boyes

Photosales Library. Cheques
payable to the order of
Messrs. Ltd., and crossed.

... to the Newpapers Ltd. and crossed.

Edited by Shona Crawford Poole.

TRAVEL

A paddle in Africa

Lions, crocodiles and a shortage of vodka
could not deter intrepid canoeist

Rob Neillands. Then he met hippo Henry ...

Few images are more exciting or evocative than that of the safari, at least as portrayed on the cinema screen. The bronzed white hunter leads a file of porters over the dry plain, tents are pitched under the spreading acacia trees as the sun goes down over Africa and somewhere, stage left, a lion is backing away in the bush. Gosh, the romance of it all!

The snag is that modern safaris aren't like that. The accommodation is in comfy lodges, equipped with all mod cons; you dine in a restaurant, take your sundowner in a cocktail bar, and view the game from the security of a minibus. But for the sake of Africa, you might be at Longleaf. Fortunately, our safari down the Zambezi was different - very different.

"Please pay attention", said Tony, our Zimbabwean guide. "If lion or hyena come into camp, wake everyone up, shout, bang pots ... that ought to scare them away. On the other hand, if elephant or buffalo come into camp, keep very quiet, lie perfectly still, and they will probably go away."

Tony didn't elaborate on what might happen if we got it the wrong way round in the heat of the moment, but that "ought to" and "probably" were the first indications that our canoe safari down the Zambezi would not be the usual sanitized affair. This was to be a touch of the real thing. Carthage? Clearly, this was a trip for Real Men, clean-cut lovers of the outdoors, well versed in bushcraft and canoe techniques. There were eight of us: Tony had done it before and ran a good line in stiff upper lips. There were four from England, all registering high on the wimp scale, with a tendency to sob in moments of stress. Our two South Africans were such keen birdwatchers that they could ignore the most menacing hippo if an unusual bird was perched on a nearby twig, while David, our New Zealander, though equipped with a big hat and a wide

grin, was an accident looking for somewhere to happen. There was hot competition to share a canoe with Tony.

The Zambezi is one of the great rivers of Africa, running for a thousand miles from Angola to the Indian Ocean, and our five-day canoe trip covered only 60 miles in Zimbabwe, from the foot of the Kariba Dam to the Mana Pools Park, but this was Africa all the way, with wilderness along the banks, lions in the bush, and plenty of hippos in the water. Tony hadn't mentioned the hippos.

Our first day's journey was a mere 14 miles through the Kariba gorge, if rather longer for those of us who could not keep the bow pointed in the right direction. We went through most of the rapids sideways or backwards, paddling frantically to avoid rocks and whirlpools, trying to ignore the watchful crocodiles and not think about being eaten. Since

there were other worries, this was easy.

"I hope this water is really as pure as Tony says", I remarked to my partner, scooping up a handful from the river. "So do I", he replied fervently. "I've drunk two mugs of it already." In the next five days we washed, shaved and bathed in the river, while drinking it by the gallon, so if the Lower Zambezi does contain bilharzia, we've probably got it.

The daily routine was to rise at dawn for a quick coffee, and then get in an hour or two's paddling before breakfast, to gain some distance before the wind got up. Secret thoughts of drifting idly along with the current were soon dashed by this relentless headwind. That apart, it was wonderful. The Zambezi is a beautiful river, running blue and silver between green islands and golden sandbanks, with great views to the distant hills. Our able South

Africans were birdwatchers to point out the rarer species: the tern-like African skimmers, the green-backed herons, the varied kingfishers, the eagles and, best of all, the brilliant carmine bee-eaters, which nest in vast colonies along the banks, and poured from their holes like flying jewels as we drifted past.

The paddling was not too strenuous, the sun shone, and when the river straightened out and the hippos were absent, we drew the canoes together, hooking our feet over the sides of each other's craft and opened another bottle of wine. Sheer bliss!

These idylls were frequently interrupted by what soon became known as the Daily Frights. Paddling round a small island, we surprised a family of slumbering hippos, which is not a good idea. Hippos may look cuddly at a distance but, surprised close-to, they display frayed nerves and teeth the size of bananas. I have dim recollections of much spray and shouting, of drifting backwards past a crocodile, and widespread confusion. We drew together in midstream for a squadron tremble and resolved to be more careful. It didn't help; hippos still continued to pop up in inconvenient places.

Stepping ashore for breakfast on day three, two members disappeared into deep holes close to the bank - no joke when there are crocodiles about: their rapid arrival on shore proved that people can walk on water if the motivation is strong enough.

A large crocodile dragged itself reluctantly into the river as we arrived at our final camp, and two elephants put in an appearance ten minutes later. The absence of artillery and tents seemed suddenly acute and a large fire became a priority. Safari beds, once placed at a discreet distance, were now packed together, and there was much crafty jockeying for an inside place. All in all, it was a restless night. Red eyes



Hippo with a mission: Henry's idea of fun was to put the wind up the Zambezi safari team

glinted at us from the river; a hyena screamed, its head off close by; somewhere in the bush someone beat a drum throughout the night, and dawn revealed fresh lion tracks 20 yards from our beds. Worst of all, we had run out of vodka.

Next morning our intrepid band had the group photo, swore undying friendship, and with only a few miles to go, set off for Mana Pools, anticipating a gentle paddle before a big breakfast. We had reckoned without Henry, our final fright.

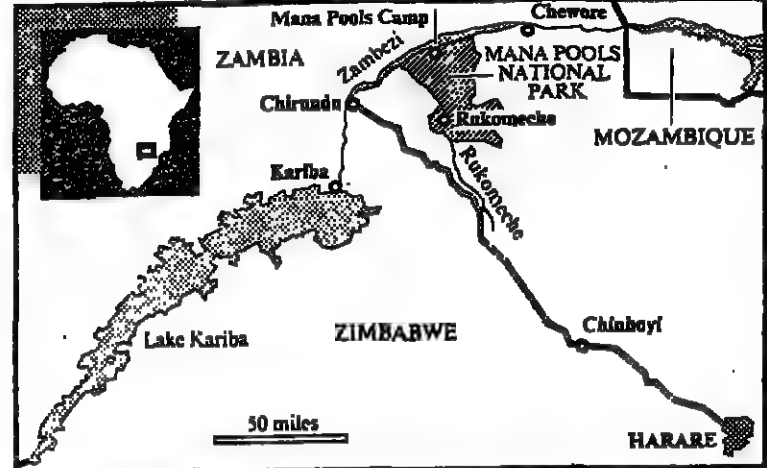
Henry is a hippo with a mission. Most hippos go in for snoring and wallowing, and only want to be left alone. But Henry counts no day complete until he has put the wind up a party of canoeists. We had heard a lot about Henry, but even so he took us by surprise. We were in

the canoes, finishing up the last of the wine, when someone said the dread word "Hippo!" - and there he was on the bank, peering hopefully in our direction. "That's Henry", shouted Tony. "Make for the shore!"

As we clawed frantically for the far bank, Henry trundled into the water and came after us, pushing up a considerable bow wave, and overhauling us with ease. We dead-ended to the shore as Henry surfaced nearby with a loud gasp and a toothy grin. I think he does it for a laugh. We crept away downstream, sticking close to the bank, and an hour later splashed ashore at Rukomeche, sun-scorched, insect bitten, in urgent need of hot showers, but very content.

TRAVEL NOTES

This Bee-Eater Canoe Safari is available through Abercrombie and Kent Travel, Soane Square House, Holborn Place, London SW1W 8NS (01-730 9600), as an extension to their African Highlife Safari. A six-day canoe safari costs from £233 full board with all equipment provided. The African Highlife Safari costs £1860 for 15 days. Canoeists should take a minimal amount of kit in a small waterproof bag, but a wide-brimmed hat, barrier sunscreen, sunglasses, a sweater, and anti-malaria tablets are essential. Full, detailed information on the canoe safari is available from Abercrombie and Kent. Birdwatchers will need fieldglasses of 8 x 30 magnification, and a good fieldguide. Photographers will need at least one long-focus lens of 200mm or more, secured in a waterproof bag. Don't forget a sense of humour.



CHESS

World beater

The tournament at New York in early 1937 was probably the greatest triumph of Capablanca's career. Playing four times each against five of the strongest players in the world, he emerged undefeated, scoring 14 points from 20 games. Most impressive of all is this masterpiece against Spielmann.

White: Capablanca; Black: Spielmann. New York 1937. Queen's Gambit Declined.

1. Nf3 Nf6 2. Nc3 Nc6 3. Bg5 Nd7 4. Qd2 Qc7 5. Qc3 Bf8 6. Bf4 Bb7 7. Qd2 Qc7 8. Qc3 Bf8 9. Bf4 Bb7 10. Qd2 Qc7 11. Qc3 Bf8 12. Bf4 Bb7 13. Qd2 Qc7 14. Qc3 Bf8 15. Bf4 Bb7 16. Qd2 Qc7 17. Qc3 Bf8 18. Bf4 Bb7 19. Qd2 Qc7 20. Qc3 Bf8

The expected reaction, but not the best, move since it leaves him passively weak on the black squares. Black had two better courses open to him: the temporizing 7... Q-K2 and the more aggressive 7... P-B4.

Superficially considered, simple enough; but in reality a key move which demonstrates on what grand lines Capablanca has planned the whole game.

Black's Queen side is rotten to the core and will collapse with amazing rapidity.

16... N-K5

Spielmann proceeds with his plan, blissfully unaware of the

mine about to detonate and destroy his whole game.

18 Nf4 Nf6 17 P-Q4! The natural move expecting White's retreat of the Bishop to B4 and so gaining time to unpin the QR by 18... B-N2.

However, it fails against White's coming combination, the direct outcome of his logical, purposeful strategy. The more defensive 17... R-N1 loses because of 18 KR-N1 Q-Q4 9 B-B4 R-N3 20 P-RxP 21 R-R2 R-N1.

18 P-Q4! A beautiful nonchalant sacrifice leaving Black no good reply.

20 P-Q4! One of the piquant points of this game is that White can repeatedly offer an exchange of Queens although a piece down.

A last dying kick, but Capablanca's crystal-clear play renders futile any attempt at creating confusion.

22 N-K5! A last dying kick, but Capablanca's crystal-clear play renders futile any attempt at creating confusion.

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OUTINGS

Busy start to the new year

Circuses, quizzes, workshops, treasure trails - there's plenty to do, says Judy Froshaug

GUIDED TOURS AND WALKS AT STAYAL: Tours of the award-winning museum which tells the story of the British textile industry. Also special guided walks with National Trust gardeners around the 250-acre country park. Stayal Country Park and Quarry Bank Mill, Styal, Cheshire (0625 527468). Museum tours today until Fri at 12.30, 2.30 and 3pm; guided walks from notice-board in car park today and tomorrow at 2pm. Adult £2, child £1.30, family tickets £5.30.

CHRISTMAS CRAFTS EXHIBITION: First open selling craft exhibition arranged by Hull City Art Galleries featuring local crafts people. Items displayed and for sale include pots, stained glass, Tiffany-style lamps, hand-painted fabrics, wall hangings. Posterngate Gallery, 8 Posterngate, Kingston-upon-Hull, Humberside (0482 222745). Today and Tues-Jan 4, 10am-5.30pm, Free.

TAMARA COCO'S CHRISTMAS CIRCUS: No animals in this circus, but clowns, acrobats, tumblers, trapeze artists and other spectacular acts. Chessington Zoo, South Car Park, Chessington, Surrey (03727 41245). Today-Jan 7, daily at 2.30 and 7.30pm. Adults £2-25, child £1-25.

THE KENWOOD CHRISTMAS QUIZ: Worksheets and puzzles for children based on the paintings in the house. Also Mr Merlin's Portrait exhibition about the inventor and musical instrument-maker Joseph Merlin whose portrait, by Thomas Gainsborough, is in the collection. The Iveagh Bequest, Kenwood, Hampstead Lane, London NW3 (01-348 1286). Mon, Tues, Thurs, 10am-5pm.

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Jan 4, Quiz 10.30am-12.30pm, Mr Martin 2-3.30pm. Both free.

PUPPET WORKSHOPS: Meet John Blundell, the man responsible for the current exhibition, and learn about the collection and how puppets work; make a paper puppet and join in a drama workshop; work with members of the Young Embroiders Society to make hand and finger puppets. Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery, Birmingham (021 2354201). Meet John Blundell, Mon 10.30am and 2pm; paper puppets, Tues 10.30am and 2pm; embroidered puppets, Thurs, Fri, 10.30am and 2pm. Free.

RAIDERS OF THE LOST ART & WORKSHOP: Treasure trail for 8-14-year-olds to discover many of the "gems" in the collection, plus a family workshop based on the gallery's Owen Jones exhibition. City Art Gallery, Mosley Street, Manchester (061 2369422). Trail throughout holidays (except Wed) Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2.30-6pm. Free. Workshop Mon, 2-4.30pm. Free. Further information (061 2369283).

BETHNAL GREEN WORKSHOPS: "Dolls in Ballet" talk by Kate Castle of the Royal Ballet followed by tuition for a simple dance in "Toy-Sellers and Jumping Jacks" Claire Plum described how she made the toy-sellers in the gallery, then shows children how to make jumping jacks. Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood, Cambridge Square, London E2 (01-380 2415). "Dolls in Ballet" Mon and Thurs; "Toy-Sellers" Tues and Jan 4. All at 2.30pm. Free.

ASTERIX AND FRIENDS: Films of these famous cartoon characters plus trail sheets relating to Ancient Egypt and Roman Britain. Lecture on life and times of Asterix's real counterparts on Fri. British Museum, Great Russell Street, London WC1 (01-638 1555). Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri: films at 11am and 3pm; lecture Fri only at 1.15pm. Free.

RIPON 1100 FESTIVAL OPENING: To mark the 1,100th anniversary of the granting of a charter to the city of Ripon, a service on New Year's Eve in the cathedral (invitation only) followed by a torchlight procession to the market square where, at midnight, the dean blesses the city, the mayor opens festival year, the square and cathedral are floodlit, bands and entertainers herald the new year.

Ripon, North Yorkshire. Further information (0785 2666). Tues, 11.30pm onwards. Free.

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AT THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF WALES: Informal activities for children aged 7-13. Question sheets, drawing boards, stools, crayons supplied. Main Building, Cathays Park, Cardiff, Wales (0222 337951). Tues, Thurs, Fri, 10am-4pm. Free.

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BRIDGE

Critical times

The Camrose Trials, which were resumed in London in November resulted in a convincing victory for Forrester, Brock, Kirby and Armstrong, with Sheehan, Myers, Rose and Smolksi second at a respectful distance.

One of the main points of interest was the performance of the volatile new combination of Rose and Smolksi. Rose is seldom critical of his partner's bidding, so I found his comments on this hand especially interesting.

North-South game. Dealer East.

W N E S
AK7643
K72
KQ93
KQ843
84

There were no problems in the play, so Sheehan and Myers conceded 2140. There was more action in the open room.

W N E S
Shek Smolksi Rose
74 No No 34(1)
70 Double No No

(1) Promising two of the top three honours (and suggesting a seven-card suit at this vulnerability, I would have thought).

As the defence lost a trick, this adventure cost only 900. Fourteen IMPs to Shek, Rose.

suggests that, at this vulnerability, Smolksi should have been more circumspect. It is true that the IMP scale strongly favours the non-vulnerable sacrifice against a vulnerable grand slam. Had Shek made only two tricks, he would have shown a profit of one IMP. "Mess about a bit", Rose advises. "Start with three hearts, do a bit of cue bidding, and only then take the plunge. He has a point."

The next hand was a fair guide to the pattern of the weekend.

Game all Dealer West.

W N E S
AKQ8764
8864
K3
Sheehan-Myers and Evans-Loveys had the same unsatisfactory auction.

W N E S
44 No No No No

Although these off-centre pre-emptives sometimes work, there is too great a danger of playing in the wrong strain, to say nothing of the wrong level. Shek and Reilly found their hearts and bid a slam. Unhappily they tried seven hearts and the opposition meanly cashed the Ace of clubs.

Kirby and Armstrong started:

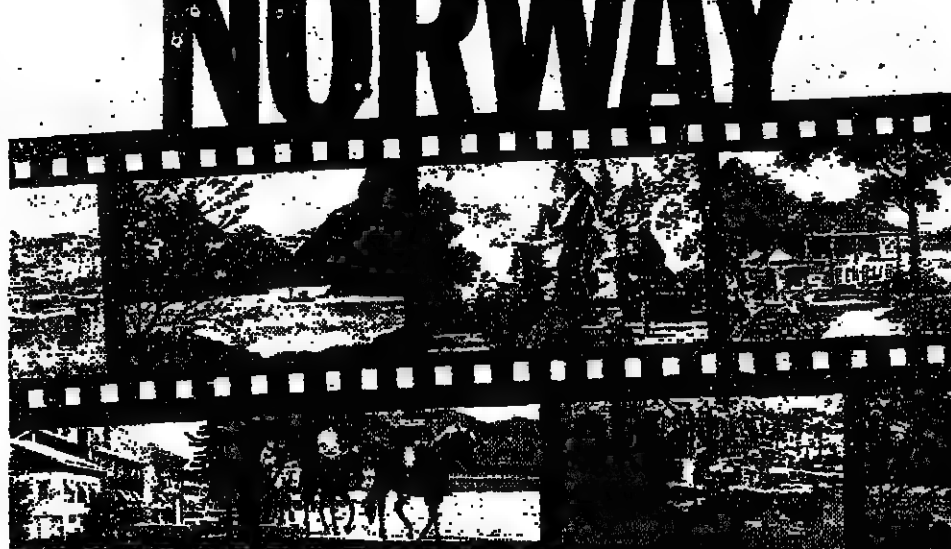
W N E S
14 No 29 No

and after a sensible exchange of cue bids, settled in six hearts.

No doubt the selectors will rely upon the winners to form the nucleus of our team in the home internationals. It will be surprising if England's defence of the Camrose trophy is unsuccessful.

Jeremy Flint

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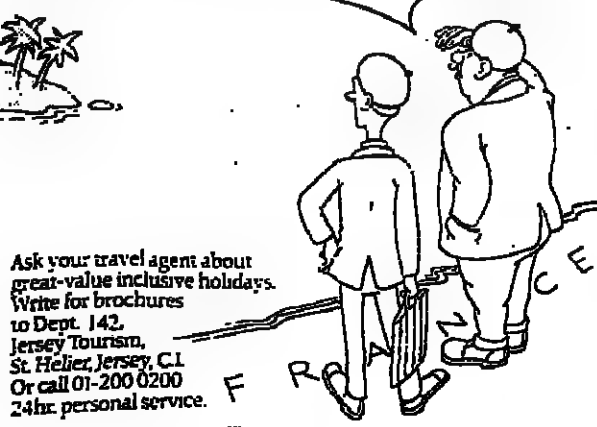
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FRANCE

FRANCE

SHOPPING

By Beryl Downing

Glittering prizes for the bargain hunters

The first things you need to face the New Year in style are a pair of spurs and some elbow pads. For without them you will never survive the January sales. Several started yesterday and now is the time to hunt for the best bargains.

Some departments offer particularly good bargains - chins at Harrods is a prime example. At John Lewis go for duvets and bedlinens; at Liberty, oriental carpets; at Heal's, beds and lighting. Best furniture buys are those with reliable names - Collins & Hayes, Michael Tyler, Derwent.

If you want sales clothes that will last keep to

classics - Burberry, of course, Daks at Simpsons, Aquascutum's men's overcoats, Jaeger's coats and cashmere, Russell & Bromley for the best boots.

If you feel there is still enough of the season left to snap up the current fashions then the best place to go is Fenwick or, for the best designer clothes, Harvey Nichols.

No one can hope to carry off glittering prizes from every department, so make a list of your priorities and refuse to be deflected. Here, room by room, is a guide to some of the best bargains on offer.

WOMENSWEAR

Country Casual: Pinstripe pleat front trousers £29 (reduced from £39), 25in pencil skirt £29 (E41), two-colour checked blouse £19 (E29), knit blouses and Donegal hats £24.95 (E19.50).
Simpsons: Cashmere coats £359 (E299), trench raincoat with zip and check lining £98 (E135), Daks wool skirts £37.50 (E27.50) and wool trousers £22.50 (E15.50). Head and shoulders £29.50 (E25.50), velvet track suits £24.50 (E19.50).
Aquascutum: Raincoats £29 (E199), wool/cashmere car coats £129 (E199), blazers £99 (E177).
Selfridges: Cashmere and wool coats by Norbert Nel £199 (E255), Cojane Italian knitted suits £99 (E225), good underwear by Playtex, Lux, Gossard, Warners from £9.99, 20 per cent off Shilton handbags and £10 off Envy.
Fenwick: Wool tweed coats trimmed with velvet collar and cuffs £125 (E189), brocade evening jackets £19 (E29.95), Sheridan Barnett long hairpin wool jackets £28 (E123).
Jaeger: Wool polo-neck ribbed sweaters £19 (E31), Chanel style check tweed coat, gold, pink, jade

or mole all with black £89 (E179), skirt to match £25 (E45), diagonal cut velvet gaiters £29 (E59), skirt £29 (E55), big double breasted blouse in mole, ivy, russet and heather £45 (E109), wool and cashmere duvet coats, navy or blond £29 (E169).
Lower: Leather skirts in fashion colours £220 (E320), stamped nappa leather casual trousers, khaki, tan or tomato red £290 (E420), 30 per cent off everything in the current collection.
Harvey Nichols: Norma Kamali dresses half price, Jean Muir half price, Sonia Rykiel, Byblos and Krizia one third off selected items, flannel wool straight skirts by Nicole Farhi for Stephen Marks £25 (E50), wool flannel culottes £57 (E88).

Liberty: Liberty print varuna wool blouses £15 reduced from £22.50, Liberty silk squares £9.50 to £20, Fenwick: Italian leather bags £25 (E39), perfect Christian Dior tights £1.10 per pair, five for £4, cashmere and wool scarves £9.95 (E22.50).
Selfridges: Fox walking length umbrellas £16.95 (E22.50).
Russell & Bromley: Very good knee high boots £49.50 and £59.50 (E39.50), jodhpur ankle boots, burgundy, black, green or brown £29.99 (E59.99), tan leather and suede brogues £24.99 (E39.99), Bruno Magli courts £69.50 (E99.50), Charles Jourdan courts £49.50 (E79.50).
Bally: Casual ankle boots brown or grey £40 (E45), flat lace-up tan or grey £35 (E49.95), bronze low-heeled evening shoe with purple ribbon trim £20 (E40).

MENSWEAR

Simpsons: Daks two-piece business suits £145 (reduced from £189), Simpson three-piece suit £136 (E179), corduroy trousers £25 (E38), business shirts £19.50 (E29), Larvin ties £3.50 (E21), Carradi suit trousers £89 (E158), Lacoste track suits £49 (E79).
Selfridges: Greater Barrie suits less 20 per cent, Christian Dior suits half price.
Aquascutum: All wool overcoats £99 (E195), trenchcoats £149 (E248), single ply cashmere

knitwear £55 (E105), cashmere scarves 72in long £29 (E59).
Harrods man's shop: Lambson coat, double breasted, full length £395 (E795), Barwin cashmere overcoat £150 (E385).
Glaves & Hawkes: Classic wool blazers £95 (E130), a few classic wool suits £195 (E475), one third off all standard suits, sports jackets £95 (E135), cotton shirts £22 (E32).
High & Mighty (for large men): Lightweight poly/cotton trousers £25.95 (E195), jeans wool suits £110 (E160), Byford long sleeved V-neck sweaters £15.95 (E22.50) and between 10 per cent and 50 per cent off selected ranges of other menswear.

LIVING ROOM

Liberty: Half price Oriental carpets and rugs from Persia, Turkey, Afghanistan and Russia; Futura lamps 15 per cent off.

Harrods: Darnley Salisbury upholstered furniture in cotton acrylic - three seat sofa £395 (reduced from £600), two seat £375 (E575), chair £200 (E300); Huslar well units including cupboard base, four drawer unit and wall mounted cupboard £895 (E1,236.50), Michael Tyler three seat sofa (Lacoste) in leather £815 (E1,275), Collins & Hayes three seat sofa (Hannover) in leather £725 (E1,230); half price Turkish kilims and Turkmenistan Pakistan rugs.
Harrods: Sony Compact 77 Hi-Fi £699 (E1,049), Sanyo 16in portable television with teletext and remote control CTP 4132 £299 (E355), VHS video camera, 14 day timer, remote control £359 (E495), Fisher 14in remote control television CFB 1410P £199 (E269).
Sanyo: Sanyo Midi system with compact disc W10/CP500 £449.99 (E599), Super mini two-band stereo radio cassette recorder M5300 £254.99 (E299.99), AM/FM personal headphones radio RF70 £25 (E70).
Heale: Rhedol floor lamps £171 (E190), wall lamps £39.95 (E44.95), Tizio desk lamp, white or black £129 (E155).
Debenhams: Thomas the Tank Engine bean bags £13.99 (E17.99).



Bargain hunting in style: (For men) Vivella check shirt £22.50 (from £35) and Daks cashmere sports jacket in herringbone or houndstooth, 38-46 £235 (E339) both from Simpsons; Argyle V-neck sweater in various colours and size £25 (E37). Jaeger: (For women) Paul Costelloe black and grey wool tweed coat, three styles, sizes 10-14 £199 (E295), alpaca scarf in cream/grey, black/cream, grey/cream £30 (E45). All at Harvey Nichols.

KITCHEN AND DINING

David Mellor: Half price David Mellor cutlery seconds at the Sloane Square branch only, 20 per cent off all Mellor cutlery and 10 per cent discount on standard merchandise at all branches.
Heale: Kew dining table £289 (reduced from £330) and Delle dining chairs, both in natural oak £105 (E125), 40 per cent off little Kanaro range of bowls £2.85 (E4.45), 20 per cent off Old Dutch stainless steel cutlery £23.95 (E29.99) for a six piece place setting.
Debenhams: Chinese wok 10-piece set £69.99 (E99.99), hand-out lead crystal decanters £19.99 (E45), 40 per cent off Meyer aluminum non-stick cookware, Kings.
Dunbar and Bead pattern silver plated cutlery canteen £89.99 (E210).

24 piece dinner set £117.80 (E176.70), Royal Doulton Royal Gold 29 piece dinner set, imperfect £309.50 (E519), Royal Worcester Contessa 25 piece dinner set, imperfect £159.45 (E239.20).
Atlantis Lyric large wine glasses £11.95 each (E17.95), Atlantis decanters £29.95 (E59.95), George Butler silverplated cutlery canteens, Harley or Gadroon, 44 piece £249 (E499).

BED AND BATH

John Lewis: Special purchase of duvets: new white goose-down £135 (E195), single £59 (E89), double £83 (E115), new duck down 12 tog single £49 (E55), double £85 (E125), king £75 (E99).
London Bedding Centre: All beds reduced by 25 per cent, some by 50 per cent.
And So To Bed: Beds, mattresses and linens, many at less than half price.
Maples, Waring & Gillow: Antique pine finish bedroom furniture including dressing table £179.95 (E269.50), five drawer chest £179.95 (E269.50), three drawer £79.95 (E119.95).
Heale: Handmade Kilcraigh bed £295 (E1,304) - the first time a Heale's bed has been included in a sale; Stephanie bunk beds £180 (E240), special purchase Peter Reed cotton sheets, double £13.95, two pillowcases £5.25.

Debenhams: Plain dyed towels, hand £99 (E3.99), bath £3.99 (E6.99), bath sheets £8.99 (E10.99), bath mats £2.99 (E3.99).
Liberty: Liberty print bedlinen: king size duvet cover £32.50 (E65), pillow cases £3.97 (E7.95).
Harrods: Fieldcrest Royal Velvet towels, half price on all large hand towels.



Tea set: Glau, Scroll design, 22 pieces £155 (E235.40), from Harrods.
Harrods: Heaviland Florence 29 piece dinner set £167 (E250), Glori Scott 22 piece tea set £155 (E235.40), Wedgwood Formal Gold

EATING OUT

Hail to the chefs that top the year's tables

Where can you find the best meals?
Stan Hey presents his annual awards

BEST OF BRITISH RESTAURANT OF THE YEAR



Ninety Park Lane
Grosvenor House, Park Lane,
London W1 (01-499 6363)
VEGETARIAN
Whitaker's
158 Broad Street, Five Ways,
Birmingham 15 (021-632 5590)

WINE BAR

Jacques Wine Bar
130 Blackstock Road, London
N4 (01-359 3410)

BRASSERIE

Soho Brasserie
33-35 Old Compton Street, London W1
(01-439 9301)

BREAKFAST

Brown's Hotel
Albemarle Street, London W1
(01-493 6020)

ETHNIC RESTAURANT

Bahn Thai
35 Marles Road, London W8
(01-937 9960)

SET LUNCH

Restaurant Seventy Four
74 Winchester, Canterbury, Kent
(0227 67411)

SUNDAY LUNCH

Rookery Hall
Worleston, near Nantwich,
Cheshire (0270 626866)

SET DINNER

Mr Underhill's
Slonham, near Stowmarket,
Suffolk (0449 711206)

championed - I wouldn't have thought terms such as pitta, moussaka, fenne had many terrors for people now - but generally it's an encouraging edition, with hints of over-zealousness.

I'd like to think that the restaurants which made most impact me over the past year exhibited equivalent strands of individual commitment and excellence. Despite the multinational corporation image of Trust House Forte, their flagship restaurant Ninety Park Lane at Grosvenor House, had a personal touch to it, which made it the most enjoyable venue for a treat. All right, Louis Outhier's three-Michelin rosette operation provided the backbone of the menu, but it has been expanded, interpreted and, let's not forget, executed by a rising young British chef Vaughan Archer.

On a much smaller scale (about 98 per cent smaller!) the two-person operation of Chris and Judy Bradley at Mr Underhill's in Suffolk offered a smashing fixed-price four-course dinner for £15.95. Excellence on a budget shone out of Ian McAndrew's set lunches at Restaurant Seventy Four in Canterbury (£8.50 two courses), while at Worleston, Cheshire, the £13.95 for Rookery Hall's multi-faceted Sunday lunch was impossible to better.

I also enjoyed the strapping, traditional breakfasts at Browns Hotel, the imaginative vegetarian food and the cheerful, unsanitised atmosphere of Whitaker's in Birmingham, the thick Gallic ambience and excellent, freshly-prepared dishes at Jacques Wine Bar, and the spicy Eastern delicacies, helpful staff, and romantic atmosphere at Bahn Thai. Finally, I admired the 14-hour-a-day commitment of all involved with the Soho Brasserie, who gave us a glimpse of what life might be like if our licensing laws were ever modernized.

But the more sober reality is that 1985 seems likely to be dominated by further development of two distinct trends - the quest for "healthy" eating, and the rise of the country house restaurant.

One eminent food writer with whom I discussed the question of improved diets felt that it was a modish flash in the wok, yet I believe steady progress is being made both in public awareness and professional response.

The increasing popularity of fish restaurants, the expansion of the Japanese presence, with its minimalist cooking, the launching of Anton Mosimann's "cuisine naturelle" and Raymond Blanc's strictures against processed food at the Chifre Conference, all seemed evidence of a movement which will not fade away.

Nor is this trend likely to be undermined by the growing band of quality chefs forsaking the cities for country restaurants. Committed to growing their own herbs and organic vegetables and to severing ties with the factory farm, these ladies and gentlemen seem set to offer us both excellence and healthiness - two good watch-words for 1986.

SALES DIARY

NOW ON
Aquascutum, 100 Regent Street, London W1.
Alders of Croydon, North End, Croydon.
And So To Bed, 7 New Kings Road, London SW8; 96a Camden High Street, NW1; 26 Castle Street, Edinburgh.
Austin Reed, all branches.
Belly, all branches.
British Home Stores, all branches.
Burberry, 18-22 Haymarket, London SW1; 165 Regent Street, W1.
Country Casual, all branches.
Debenhams, all branches.
Fenwick: New Bond Street, London W1; Brent Cross Shopping Centre, London NW4.
Heale, 186 Tottenham Court Road, London W1.
High & Mighty, 177 Brompton Road, London SW3; 145-147

Edwards Road, W2; 22/23 Princess Street, W1; 275 High Holborn, WC1; 415-417 Oxford Street, W1.
John Lewis, Edinburgh.
John Lewis, Regent Street, London W1.
London Bedding Centre, 28/27 Sloane Square, London SW1.
Maples, Waring & Gillow, all branches.
Paddy Campbell, 8 Gess Court, St Christopher's Place, London W1, and 17 Beauchamp Place, SW3.
Russell & Bromley, all branches.
Selfridges, Oxford Street, London W1.
Simpsons, Piccadilly, London W1.
STARTS TODAY
John Lewis, Oxford Street, London W1.
DECEMBER
John Lewis, Brent Cross Shopping Centre, London NW4, Dec 30.
Peter Jones, Spence Square,

DRINK Wines with a party flavour

Most people's idea of the perfect party wine is cheap, cheerful and lots of it. My taste buds, however, are a fastidious lot. They weaned themselves off the average party plonk years ago, claiming that the fun of the night before was no recompense for the sensitive stomach and spitting head of the morning after.

What they and I crave on New Year's Eve is high quality, low-price, party wines with appealing fruity flavours that are likely to go down well with everybody.

Finding these delightful but elusive creatures is a good deal more difficult than it sounds.

This year, for instance, my quest for the finest cheap wines has sent around 10,000 wines swirling round my taste buds. Wine quality controllers and blenders in this country and abroad taste twice that amount. What keeps me going is that from time to time, tucked in a wine with a flavour and finesse warranting a £3-plus price tag, yet selling for under £2 a bottle. The supermarkets and wine warehouses are my chief source of bargains and, predictably, many of my 1985 cheap wine wonders were found at a tasting held by Waitrose in October.

The first wine in the line-up demonstrated why Waitrose leads the field. The excellent one-litre Waitrose Carafe Red from Sardinia had a pretty pale colour, plus an appealing spicy-peppery note backed by a peppery-fruity taste. Although no one would put it in the first league, it is nonetheless good value for money at £2.29 a litre. By my calculations this works out at £1.72 per 75cl bottle or an amazingly low £1.63 a bottle if you buy the two-litre Carafe Red for £3.35.



Finding inexpensive white wines that are acceptable to my taste buds is an even more taxing task. Once again Waitrose have succeeded with their '84 Domaine de Planterrie, a vin de pays from Gascony in south-west France. With its pale green colour and dry, fresh, clean taste, it is a bargain at £1.99 for a 70cl bottle, and certainly a big improvement on the sulphury '83 vintage. Cheaper still, with a slightly sweeter style that will have wider appeal on New Year's Eve, is the soft, grapey Bulgarian White Wine sold by Waitrose for £1.75 a bottle. Majestic sell the same Bulgarian white at a miraculously low £1.59 a bottle or £1.08 a case. Finally, bubbly fans will be glad to know that "seeing in" 1986 need not be as expensive as they might suppose. The G.F. Cavalier Brut, priced at an enticingly low £2.49 (from either Oddbins or Majestic Wine Warehouses) which I recommended two weeks ago in this column, has a delightful, crisp green, racy style and is still the best buy in fizz of 1985. Happy New Year!

Jane MacQuitty

IN THE GARDEN Relax and read all about it

The dark days of winter are the time to sit down and do some serious gardening - in other words, read the seed catalogues and plan next summer's display.

Each year there are a great many new plants and it is always worth while having some to try out. Begonias are great favourites and the place to look for novelty is Suttons, which is the only company to stock *Begonia semperflorens* "Trevor Milton". These make compact plants with green as well as bronze foliage. The colour range goes from the deep reds through to pale pink and white.

One plant now increasing in popularity is the Busy Lizzie - excellent value for any garden. Suttons now have a dwarf form: *Impatiens sultani* "Mini Mixed". It grows six to eight inches high and, though compact, has a wide colour range and a long flowering season. Another plant only available

through Suttons is Afro-French Marigolds "Cathleen Parade". This is an F1 and, as it is a hybrid between the French and African marigolds, it has flowers midway between the two. The flowers are fully double and profuse ranging from lemon yellow to a strong orange.

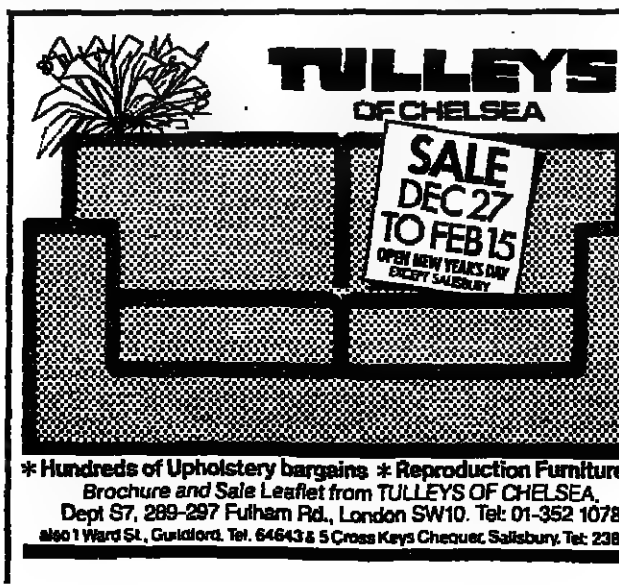
Verbenas are rather neglected and this is a pity. The new forms throw their flowers well clear of the foliage and are excellent bedders. "Derby Mixed" is new to Suttons and, with a wide colour range, is sure to catch on.

SEED SUPPLIERS

Suttons Seeds, Hale Road, Torquay, Devon TQ2 7JL; Samuel Doble & Son, Dobles Seeds, Upper Dea Mills, Langdon, Croyd LL20 8SD; Thompson and Morgan, The Seedsmen, London Road, Ipswich, Suffolk IP2 0BA; Urwins Seeds, Histon, Cambridge CB4 4LE; Marshall's Seeds & Co, Regal Road, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire PE13 2RF; Hurst Seeds, Avenue Road, Witham, Essex CM8 2DX.

Window blessing

One of the most pleasant window plants, *Aloe variegata*, fits on the smallest sill. Some 12in tall, it is easy to grow, remains compact throughout its life and only gains height when it throws up its central spike of flowers. These are very pretty but sadly don't necessarily come every year.



How to get into the Harvey Nichols Sale before everyone else.

Our Sale starts on Thursday January 2nd, but account customers can preview the sale merchandise and enjoy an extra 10% off sale prices this Monday and Tuesday.

To open an account, simply present a valid credit card or bankers card to customer services on the 5th floor. You can then fritter away the £500 instant credit and snap up the reductions (many of them half price) at your leisure.

The Harvey Nichols Sale starts Thursday 9.30-7. Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, London SW1.



THE INCREDIBLE SEED CATALOGUE
Detailed reference book of plants in full colour. 212 pages, 1000 illustrations, over 3000 varieties. Fully informative when used how to plant, care, seasonal flowering. Quarterly website closely linked. Source your FREE copy, posted now. While stocks last. Thompson & Morgan, Dept 28, 100 High Street, Ipswich, Suffolk IP1 3DA. Tel 0434 442222 (9.00-5.00).

Agriframes FRUIT CAGES
Send for FREE brochure and net samples
Agriframes Ltd, Brochure No. 207, Churchwood Road, East Grinstead, Sussex BN19 2XG.
Name: _____
Address: _____
Postcode: _____
Ring 0342 28644(24 hours)

THE NORWICH EXPERIENCE

of world sport for 1986



ICE HOCKEY

Dec 28-Jan 2: European Junior Championships pool C, Barcelona
Mar 29-30: World championships, Pool B, Enschede, Netherlands
Mar 31-Apr 1: World junior championships, pool C, Gap, France
Apr 12-28: World championships, Pool A, Moscow
Apr 29-May 1: Heineken British championship final, Wembley

ICE SKATING

Jan 11-12: Women's European speed championships, Gelnhausen, West Germany
Jan 25-26: Men's European speed championships, Oslo
Jan 27-Feb 1: European figure and dance championships, Copenhagen
Jan 31-Feb 1: World speed championships, Calgary
Feb 8-9: Women's world speed championships, The Hague
Feb 14-15: Men's world speed championships, Heerenveen, Netherlands
Mar 17-22: World figure and dance championships, Geneva
Mar 23-24: British Open speed championships, Peterborough
Apr 3-5: World indoor speed championships, Quebec
Sept 23-28: St. Ivel International, Richmond
Nov 14-16: British figure and dance championships, Nottingham (prov)
Nov 24-26: British figure and dance championships (prov)

JUDO

Mar 15-16: European Open women's championships, Crystal Palace
Apr 11-12: World junior championships (young men), Rome
Apr 11: British Open men's championships, Crystal Palace
Apr 12: European senior men's championships, Belgrade
June 28: National men's championships, South
June 29: National women's championships, South
Sept 27: British Open women's championships, Crystal Palace
Oct 24-27: Women's world championships, Maastricht, Netherlands
Nov 8-9: European Junior championships (Under 18), Austria

LACROSSE

Women
Feb 1-2: All-England territorial championships (1st weekend), Harrogate
Feb 8: All-England junior territorial championships, Bedford
Feb 15-16: All-England territorial championships (2nd weekend), Newbury
Feb 28: England v England reserves, Crystal Palace
Mar 1: Wales v Scotland, Cardiff
Mar 8: Scotland v England, Edinburgh; Oxford v Cambridge, Oxford
Mar 15: England v Wales, National schools tournament (finals), Moutspur Park
Mar 16: Junior England v England Under 21, Cranborne
Mar 17: England v North of England, venue to be announced
Mar/Apr: Iroquois Indians tour of England
June 14-21: 2nd World Cup, Philadelphia
July 15-22: World series, Toronto
Oct 18: South of England counties festival, Orpington

MODERN PENTATHLON

Mar 29-30: National triathlon championships, Crystal Palace
May 23-25: International, Warrage
June 6-8: Women's international, Birmingham
June 10-16: Men's international, Milton Keynes
Aug 5-10: World championships (men, junior, women), Montecatini, Italy
Sept 5-7: National junior and

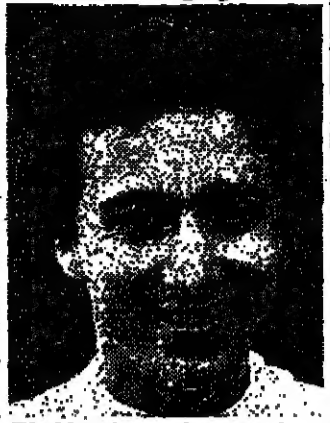


World hope: Richard Phelps women's championships, Basingstoke
Nov 15-16: National biathlon championships, Lincoln

MOTOR CYCLING

March 18: British Round, Motor-cycles Trials World Championship, Wetherby
March 24-31: Transatlantic Challenge Motor-cycles Races, Donington Park
April 6: Italian Formula One Motor-cycles World Championship, Mugello
April 13: French Motor-cycles World Endurance Championship, 24 hours, Le Mans
April 25-27: British Sidecar-Cross Grand Prix, Mortimer and District MCC
May 4: Spanish Motor-cycles Grand Prix, Jarama

May 4: German Formula One Motor-cycles World Championship, Hockenheim
May 11: Portuguese Motor-cycles World Endurance Championship, 6 hours, Estoril
May 18: Italian Motor-cycles Grand Prix, Monza
May 25: German Motor-cycles Grand Prix, Nurburgring
May 31: Isle of Man First Sidecar and Formula One TT, Isle of Man
May 31-June 1: British Round, World Two-day Motor-cycles Enduro Championship (Natterjack Enduro), Gordon, Haris
June 2: Isle of Man Formula Two and First Production TT
June 4: Isle of Man Junior and Second Sidecar TT
June 6: Isle of Man Second Production and Senior TT
June 8: Austrian Motor-cycles Grand Prix, Salzburgring



World 500cc and 250cc champion: Freddie Spencer

June 8: Italian Motor-cycles World Endurance Championship, 6 hours, Imola
June 15: British 250cc Motor-Cross Grand Prix, Farley Castle
June 15: Yugoslav Motor-cycles Grand Prix, Rijeka
June 22: Austrian Motor-cycles World Endurance Championship, 6 hours, Osterreichring
June 28: Dutch Motor-cycles Grand Prix and Formula One World Championship, Assen
July 6: Belgian Motor-cycles Grand Prix, Spa Francorchamps
July 12-13: British 500cc Motor-Cross Grand Prix, Hewkiss Park
July 13: Spanish Formula One and Two World Championships, Montreuil Park
July 20: Portuguese Formula One and Two World Championships, Vila Real
July 27: Japanese Motor-cycles World Endurance Championship, 8 hours, Suzuka
Aug 3: British Motor-cycles Grand Prix, Silverstone
Aug 3: Finnish Formula One and Two Motor-cycles World Championship, Imatra
Aug 16: Swedish Motor-cycles Grand Prix, Anderstorp
Aug 16: Irish Formula One and Two World Championship, Dundrod
Aug 17: Belgian Motor-cycles World Endurance Championship, 24 hours, Spa Francorchamps
Aug 24: San Marino Motor-cycles Grand Prix, Misano
Aug 28: German Motor-cycles Grand Prix (small classes and sidecars), Hockenheim
Aug 31: Croatian Motor-cycles World Endurance Championship, 1,000km, Hockenheim
Sept 8-13: International Six-day Enduro, Italy (provisionally Palermo)
Sept 28: Spanish Motor-cycles World Endurance Championship, 8 hours, Jerez
Sept 28: German Formula Two World Motor-cycles Championship, Hockenheim

MOTOR RACING

Formula 1 world championship
Mar 23: Brazilian Grand Prix, Rio de Janeiro
Apr 7: San Marino Grand Prix, Imola, Italy
May 11: Monaco Grand Prix, Monte Carlo
May 25: Belgian Grand Prix, Zolder
May 25: Canadian Grand Prix, Montreal
June 22: Detroit Grand Prix, Detroit
July 6: French Grand Prix, Dijon
July 13: British Grand Prix, Brands Hatch
Watch Alain Prost defend his world championship, with his new Marlboro McLaren team partner, Keke Rosberg, among his main rivals. Nigel Mansell, joined as Canon Williams by Nelson Piquet, returns to the scene of his first Grand Prix victory, but Ayrton Senna and his JPS Lotus should be the combination to beat in qualifying. Tickets from: RAC Motor Sports Association Ltd, 31 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8QH (Tel: 01-235 8601) or Grand Prix Box Office, Bankham, Dartford, Kent, DA3 8NG (Tel: 0474 872331).

July 27: German Grand Prix, Hockenheim
Aug 10: Hungarian Grand Prix, Budapest
Aug 17: Austrian Grand Prix, Zeltweg
Aug 31: Dutch Grand Prix, Zandvoort
Sept 7: Italian Grand Prix, Monza
Sept 21: Portuguese Grand Prix, Estoril
Oct 12: Mexican Grand Prix, Mexico City
Oct 26: Australian Grand Prix, Adelaide

In addition to the above dates, the following have been reserved for possible use for a world championship race: Mar 9, Apr 6, Apr 13, Aug 3. The world championship will be confined to 16 races. Alternative venues include Argentina, Spain and Europe (Silverstone).

Sportscar World Championship
Apr 6: Mugello, Italy
Apr 20: Monza, Italy
May 31: Le Mans
May 20: Brands Hatch
Aug 2: reserve date
Aug 24: Nurburgring, Germany
Sept 14: Spa-Francorchamps, Belgium
Oct 5: Mount Fuji, Japan
Nov 30: Selangor, Malaysia
Dec 7: Surfers Paradise, Australia

MOTOR RALLYING

World rally championship
Feb 18-25: Monte Carlo
Feb 14-16: Swedish
Mar 4-9: Portuguese

Mar 30-Apr 3: Safari
May 1-4: Corsican
May 1-4: Acropolis
July 3-5: New Zealand
Aug 3-10: Argentinian
Sept 3-7: Finnish 1000 Lakes
Oct 12-18: San Remo (Italy)
Nov 16-20: Lombard RAC

NETBALL

Feb 15: England v Republic of Ireland (Senior/Under 21), Bristol
Mar 1-2: United Kingdom v Ireland (Senior/Under 21), Belfast
Apr 26: Barclays Bank national youth tournament finals, Ealing
May 18: Butler Cup final, Manchester
June 7: International Butler Cup final, Wales
Nov 29: England v Australia, Wembley

ORIENTEERING

Feb 2: National event, Dorking
Mar 5: National event, Cranbrook Chase
Mar 29-31: National event, East Angles
Apr 23: National event, Lake Coniston
May 3: National event, Forest of Dean
May 4: British relay championships, Forest of Dean
May 25: British championships, Forest of Dean
June 1: National event, Sheffield
June 15: National event, Scotland
Nov 16: National event, Scotland
Nov 30: National event, North-east

POLO

June 1-8: H.M. The Queen's Cup, Windsor
June 12-22: Royal Windsor Cup, Windsor
June 24-26: Warwickshire Cup, Cranmore
July 1-20: British Open championship, Midhurst
July 7-20: Cincroster Champion Cup, Cincroster
July 27: Carlier International matches, Windsor
July 24-Aug 3: Cowdray Park Challenge Cup, Midhurst
Oct 11-17: National 15-goal championship, Cincroster
Aug 15: Monte Carlo
May 25: St Tropez
May 26-27: Spanish venue
May 31-June 1: Venice
June 15: Punta Ala, Italy
June 28: Porto Cervo, Sardinia
July 27: Meraggio, Italy
Aug 5: Ovegrund, Sweden
Aug 18: Poole
Aug 24: Cowes
Sept 7: Guernsey
World grand prix intend circuit
Apr 26-27: Milan
Apr 28: Italian venue (prov)
June 14-15: Bristol
June 21-22: Augusta, Georgia
June 28-29: Dutch venue
July 12-13: Hannover, West Germany
Aug 2-3: Drammen, Norway
Aug 9-10: St Louis, Missouri
Aug 23-25: London

POWER BOATING

United Kingdom offshore
May 3-4: Spithead Trophy, Portsmouth
July 13: London/Calais/London, Tower Bridge
July 27-28: Brighton Marina Trophy, Sussex
Aug 2: Torbay International, Brixham
Sept 20-21: Bournemouth European class 1 and class 2 May 4: Cannes
May 18: Monte Carlo
May 25: St Tropez
May 26-27: Spanish venue
May 31-June 1: Venice
June 15: Punta Ala, Italy
June 28: Porto Cervo, Sardinia
July 27: Meraggio, Italy
Aug 5: Ovegrund, Sweden
Aug 18: Poole
Aug 24: Cowes
Sept 7: Guernsey
World grand prix intend circuit
Apr 26-27: Milan
Apr 28: Italian venue (prov)
June 14-15: Bristol
June 21-22: Augusta, Georgia
June 28-29: Dutch venue
July 12-13: Hannover, West Germany
Aug 2-3: Drammen, Norway
Aug 9-10: St Louis, Missouri
Aug 23-25: London

RACING

Jan 11: Embassy Premier Chase final, Ascot
Feb 8: Schweppes Gold Trophy, Newbury
Feb 15: Irish Champion Hurdle, Leopardstown
Mar 11: Champion Hurdle, Cheltenham
Mar 12: Queen Mother Champion Chase, Cheltenham
Mar 13: Cheltenham Gold Cup, Cheltenham
Mar 22: Lincoln Handicap, Doncaster
Mar 31: Irish Grand National, Fairyhouse
Apr 5: Grand National, Aintree
Last Sunday, the 1985 Grand National winner, has been brought out of retirement by Anne, Duchess of Westminster for another tilt at the gruelling Aintree chase which would give Tina Forster a fourth training success in the race - a post-war record. Red Rum's trainer, Donald McCain, has a live contender in Kumbi but the leading northern hope is likely to be Mr Snuggly, runner-up to Last Sunday nine months ago after a busy season.

Apr 16: European Free Handicap, Newmarket
Apr 19: Scottish Grand National, Ayr
Apr 27: Open Under 24 Singles and doubles, Queen's Club
Jan 10-18: Amateur doubles, Queen's Club
Feb 21-23: Professionals singles, Queen's Club
Mar 1-2: Dartmouth doubles cup, BRNC
Mar 1-8: Open singles, Queen's Club



Derby double: Dick Hern

Apr 28: Whitbread Gold Cup, Sandown
Apr 27: French 2,000 Guineas, Longchamp
May 1: 1,000 Guineas, Newmarket
May 2: 1,000 Guineas, Newmarket
May 4: French 1,000 Guineas, Longchamp
May 8: Chester Vase
May 14: Dante Stakes, York
May 17: Irish 2,000 Guineas, Curragh
May 24: Irish 1,000 Guineas, Curragh
June 4: Derby, Epsom

With so many leading Flat stables affected by the virus in 1985, it is quite conceivable that the 1986 Derby winner has not yet run or has run and not won. Among those in the latter category are Shahrastani (Michael Stoute), Broom Point (John Dunlop), Fagan (Dicky Hendry), and White Red (Dick Hern). All four trainers have won the Derby in the last eight years, here twice.

June 5: Coronation Cup, Epsom
June 7: Oaks, Epsom
June 8: French Derby, Chantilly
June 15: French Oaks, Chantilly
June 19: Gold Cup, Royal Ascot
June 20: King's Stand Stakes, Royal Ascot
June 28: Irish Derby, Curragh
Northumberland Plate, Newcastle
July 25: Stewards' Cup, Sandown
July 10: July Cup, Newmarket
July 12: Magnat Cup, York; Irish Oaks, Curragh
July 28: King George VI & Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes, Ascot
July 28: Stewards' Cup, Goodwood
July 30: Sussex Stakes, Goodwood
Aug 18: Yorkshire Oaks, York
Aug 20: Stewards' Cup, Sandown
Aug 21: William Hill Sprint Championship, York
Aug 23: Waterford Crystal Mile, Goodwood
Aug 31: Arlington Million, Chicago
Sept 5: Verrill Sprint Cup, Haydock
Sept 7: Phoenix Champion Stakes, Phoenix Park
Sept 10: Park Hill Stakes, Doncaster
Sept 13: St Leger, Doncaster
Sept 15: Ayr Gold Cup
Sept 27: Queen Elizabeth II Stakes, Ascot
Oct 1: Cheveley Park Stakes, Newmarket
Oct 4: Middle Park Stakes, Cambridge
Oct 5: Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, Longchamp
Oct 11: Irish St Leger, Curragh
Oct 17: Dewhurst Stakes, Newmarket
Oct 18: Champion Stakes, Cascares, Newmarket
Oct 25: William Hill Futurity, Doncaster
Oct 28: French St Leger, Longchamp
Nov 1: Breeders Cup, Santa Anita
Nov 8: November Handicap, Doncaster
Nov 8: Mackeson Gold Cup, Cheltenham
Nov 22: Hennessy Gold Cup, Newbury
Nov 30: Japan Cup, Tokyo
Nov 8: Still Fork Trucks Gold Cup, Cheltenham
Dec 13: SGB Chase, Ascot
Dec 26: Welsh National, Chepstow
Dec 28: King George VI Chase, Kempton

RUGBY LEAGUE

Jan 11: John Player Special Trophy final
Jan 18: France v Great Britain Under-21; France v Great Britain Cup
Feb 2: Great Britain v France Under 21
Feb 8-9: Silk Cut Challenge Cup, first round
Feb 16: France v Great Britain, Warrington
Feb 22-23: Silk Cut Challenge Cup, second round
Mar 2: Great Britain v France; Great Britain v France Colts
Mar 8-9: Silk Cut Challenge Cup third round
Mar 22: Silk Cut Challenge Cup, first semi-final
Mar 29: Silk Cut Challenge Cup, second semi-final
May 3: Silk Cut Challenge Cup final, Wembley

RUGBY UNION

Jan 11: England XV v Japan, Twickenham
Dec 9: Oxford University v Cambridge University, Twickenham

SHOOTING

Feb 25-Mar 3: European air weapons championships, Helsinki
June 11-16: European junior smallbore championships, Budapest
July 7-8: European crossbow championships, Solgen, Sweden
July 12-26: Biathlon, Biathlon, Biathlon
July 17: Ashburton Shield schools rifle championship, Biathlon
July 28: Final of Queen's Prize, Biathlon
Aug 18: British smallbore rifle championship, Biathlon
Aug 25: British pistol championship, Biathlon
Sept 12-15: World shooting championships, Suhl, East Germany
Oct 12: British air weapons championships, finals, Cardiff

SPEEDWAY

June 1: British championship final, Coventry; Individual European championship (Under 21), second round, venue to be announced
June 2: Individual world championship, Commonwealth final, Odsal Stadium, Bradford
July 20: Individual world championship, Commonwealth final, Odsal Stadium, Bradford
Aug 17: Team world championship, final, Odsal Stadium, Bradford

SKIING

Jan 10: British downhill championship, Jerns, Austria
Jan 11-12: Women's World Cup, Badgastein, Austria
Jan 12-14: British slalom and giant slalom championships, St Moritz
Jan 15-19: Hahnenkamm, Kitzbuehel, Austria
Jan 23-25: British Nordic championships, Zwiesel, West Germany
Jan 24-26: Women's World Cup, Megève-St Gervais, France
Feb 1-2: Leutkirch, Wangen, Switzerland
Feb 7-8: Kandahar-Martini, Courmayeur, Italy
Mar 21-23: Alpine World Cup finals, Bormio, Canada
Feb 12-16: British free-style championships, Cairngorm

SQUASH RACKETS

Jan 2-5: Natwest British Under 19 Open (Drysdale Cup), London
Jan 6-9: Blue Band International Team Festival, Under 19, 16, 14, London
Jan 10-12: Home Internationals, Taunton
Jan 17-19: Belgian Open, Brussels
Jan 18-23: Blue Stratos Sport British Under 23 Open, Marlow
Jan 19-24: ICI Open championship, Thornaby
Feb 1-2: Inter-county championship, Harrogate
Feb 5-9: Irish Open, Dublin
Feb 12-16: Swedish Open, Stockholm
Feb 17-21: Finnish Open, Helsinki
Mar 1-5: Forton Scottish Open, Edinburgh
Mar 5-8: Swiss Open, Geneva
Mar 8-13: French Open, Paris
Mar 16-17: Prince Rainier III Open, Monaco
Apr 2-21: World junior championships, Brisbane
Apr 14-22: Hi-Tec Sports British Open championships, East Grinstead & Wembley

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Mar 11: Schools' Head of the River, Chiswick to Putney
Mar 22: Head of the River, Mortlake to Putney
Mar 23: Women's Boat Race and men's and women's lightweight races, Henley
Mar 28: Oxford v Cambridge, Putney to Mortlake
The 15th Oxford Race (3.15pm) sees Oxford seeking their 11th successive win, though 1986 could be the year when Cambridge finally end their dismal sequence. With four internationals likely to be in their boat, Cambridge may find their strongest crew for several years and Oxford may not even start favourites.

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RUGBY LEAGUE

Jan 11: John Player Special Trophy final
Jan 18: France v Great Britain Under-21; France v Great Britain Cup
Feb 2: Great Britain v France Under 21
Feb 8-9: Silk Cut Challenge Cup, first round
Feb 16: France v Great Britain, Warrington
Feb 22-23: Silk Cut Challenge Cup, second round
Mar 2: Great Britain v France; Great Britain v France Colts
Mar 8-9: Silk Cut Challenge Cup third round
Mar 22: Silk Cut Challenge Cup, first semi-final
Mar 29: Silk Cut Challenge Cup, second semi-final
May 3: Silk Cut Challenge Cup final, Wembley

RUGBY UNION

Jan 11: England XV v Japan, Twickenham
Dec 9: Oxford University v Cambridge University, Twickenham

SHOOTING

Feb 25-Mar 3: European air weapons championships, Helsinki
June 11-16: European junior smallbore championships, Budapest
July 7-8: European crossbow championships, Solgen, Sweden
July 12-26: Biathlon, Biathlon, Biathlon
July 17: Ashburton Shield schools rifle championship, Biathlon
July 28: Final of Queen's Prize, Biathlon
Aug 18: British smallbore rifle championship, Biathlon
Aug 25: British pistol championship, Biathlon
Sept 12-15: World shooting championships, Suhl, East Germany
Oct 12: British air weapons championships, finals, Cardiff

SPEEDWAY

June 1: British championship final, Coventry; Individual European championship (Under 21), second round, venue to be announced
June 2: Individual world championship, Commonwealth final, Odsal Stadium, Bradford
July 20: Individual world championship, Commonwealth final, Odsal Stadium, Bradford
Aug 17: Team world championship, final, Odsal Stadium, Bradford

SKIING

Jan 10: British downhill championship, Jerns, Austria
Jan 11-12: Women's World Cup, Badgastein, Austria
Jan 12-14: British slalom and giant slalom championships, St Moritz
Jan 15-19: Hahnenkamm, Kitzbuehel, Austria
Jan 23-25: British Nordic championships, Zwiesel, West Germany
Jan 24-26: Women's World Cup, Megève-St Gervais, France
Feb 1-2: Leutkirch, Wangen, Switzerland
Feb 7-8: Kandahar-Martini, Courmayeur, Italy
Mar 21-23: Alpine World Cup finals, Bormio, Canada
Feb 12-16: British free-style championships, Cairngorm

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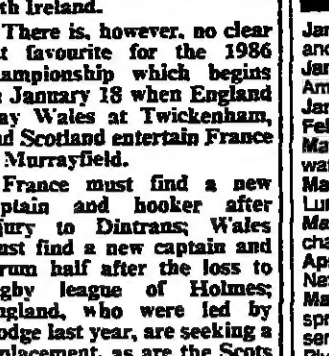
Jan 2-5: Natwest British Under 19 Open (Drysdale Cup), London
Jan 6-9: Blue Band International Team Festival, Under 19, 16, 14, London
Jan 10-12: Home Internationals, Taunton
Jan 17-19: Belgian Open, Brussels
Jan 18-23: Blue Stratos Sport British Under 23 Open, Marlow
Jan 19-24: ICI Open championship, Thornaby
Feb 1-2: Inter-county championship, Harrogate
Feb 5-9: Irish Open, Dublin
Feb 12-16: Swedish Open, Stockholm
Feb 17-21: Finnish Open, Helsinki
Mar 1-5: Forton Scottish Open, Edinburgh
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Rock & jazz records

REVIEW

Houston fails first attempt at lift-off

Of all the American female soloists to top the British charts this year - Phyllis Nelson, Madonna, Jennifer Rush - Ms Whitney Houston is the one you'd put money on to last the course a few more years.

Houston's background and pedigree are impeccable. Her mother is the Gospel singer and former Sweet Inspiration Clary Houston, the woman whose version of "Midnight Train to Georgia" is still the one to beat. Whitney's cousin is Dionne Warwick and she calls Aretha Franklin auntie.

Whitney has already topped both the American R&B and pop charts twice and is leading the field here too with the contemplative, nicely paced "Saving All My Love for You". Her debut album, though, is something of a disappointment. It suffers primarily from allowing the 22-year-old to be used as a mouthpiece for too many writer-turned-producers and a selection of material which seldom allows the gospel timbres and strong tones in her voice to rise above a morass of insipid digital soul-by-numbers.

The exceptions offer a tantalizing glimpse of what might have been. The next single, "How Will I Know", has the early belting quality of Aretha Franklin. In its extended mix the sound is custom-made for dance floor and commercial consumption, combining the vogue for frenzied sensuality à la Madonna with some archetypal New Jersey horns that could have walked off a Springsteen record.

The ballads and duets with Jermaine Jackson and Teddy Pendergrass merely indicate that Ms Houston is being moulded into an all-round supper club and cocktail entertainer at the expense of her true forte, which is surely to handle some real explosive churchy R&B without all the insidious hardware.

While media attention continues to be devoted to John Lennon, his widow, Yoko Ono, has kept a dignified, low profile of late. After 1983's fairly indecipherable *It's A Beautiful Day*, the world has hardly waited on tenterhooks for the eccentric artist's latest music, but *Starpeace* is an extraordinary and approachable album.

Whitney Houston (Arista 206 378) Yoko Ono *Starpeace* (PolyGram 827 530-1) Fine Young Cannibals (London LONLP18) Lloyd Cole & The Commotions *Easy Pieces* (LCLP2)

Producer Bill Laswell gives Ono her most focused aural canvas since the Plastic Ono Band days - which this in no way resembles - and by contrasting Yoko's most soulful approach to date with musicians like Bernie Worrell, Sly and Robbie, guitarist Eddie Martinez and drummer Tony Williams, the whole affair coasts along with surprising vigour.

It is hard to believe that Yoko Ono would make a fully-fledged pop record but all her avant-garde tendencies are discarded in favour of simple structures and a set of lyrics which tend towards sentiment in the same way that Kate Bush deals in whimsy.

I doubt if Yoko Ono will appear in the charts with "Children Power" or "I Love You Earth" but *Starpeace* has sufficient imagination and melody to become a cult artefact in years to come.

The Fine Young Cannibals from Coventry turned many heads earlier in the year with the sparkling debut single "Johnny Come Home" in which the fresh and pleasing tones of singer Roland Gift hinted at great things to come.

Their eponymous first album never quite fulfils that promise. The playing of ex-Beat members Andy Cox on guitar and David Steele on bass and keyboards ensures the clear-cut edge of practised players remains but Mr Gift hasn't quite learnt the techniques of space and timing.

Gift has the ability to dwell in areas of declaratory or pleading soul and the comparisons to the style of Otis Redding are not entirely fanciful. What he doesn't do is curb his enthusiasm for mannered yelping which occasionally makes him sound like Elvis Costello at the wrong speed.

Most of the songs suffer from a two-dimensional quality which leaves them uncomfortably hanging in the air between pure pop and club-rock with an updated finesse.

When Gift and chums relax into the groove of "Blue" with its edgy metaphor of the political hue and the emotional state, or the pleasantly grouchy "Couldn't Care More", all the respective talents fall into place.

Lloyd Cole and the Commotions' *Rattlesnakes* was one of the finds of last year. Bookish, occasionally pedantic but prone to outbursts of incisive irony, the mild-mannered Cole is gradually outgrowing his folksy Lou Reed guise and settling into a niche which almost pastiches country conventions.

Easy Pieces benefits from the change in direction. Cole still likes to indulge in wordplay but the jokes are usually double-edged and the songs have a habit of unsettling one with their nervous phrasings and documentary accuracy.

The best song of all is "Why I Love Country Music", a glorious selection of clichés and Nashville hokum delivered with as much sincerity as Cole can muster without laughing aloud. Maybe Waylon and Willie never played it like this but I doubt if they had the Commotions' sense of humour either.

Max Bell



Soulful Yoko Ono, going for simplicity and sentiment

Bob Dylan: Biograph (CBS CSX 38830, 5 discs)
Sandy Denny: Who Knows Where The Time Goes? (Island SDSP 100, 4 discs)

Nothing as simple as a "greatest hits" collection from the Bob Dylan of 1985, of course. In the way that it mirrors the inconsistency and contradictions of his extraordinary career, *Biograph* is the closest he has come to creating a full self-portrait. A huge and sprawling canvas covering 10 sides of vinyl with 53 songs, nine of them previously unreleased in unfamiliar versions, it encompasses recycled traditional ballads, devotional tracts, fire-breathing rockers, loose after-hours jams and taunt-wound concert performances in which the audience is sometimes perceived as an adversary.

All these combine to create the image of an enigmatic figure who did as much as anyone else to mould post-war Anglo-American popular music and the international youth culture which it was to inspire.

Dylan's comprehension of his own role is the true revelation, and you will get that not from the music but from the lengthy and absorbing interview (by *Rolling Stone* journalist Cameron Crowe) that is to be found in the lavish accompanying pamphlet and in the commentary on the individual songs that appears on the five inner sleeves.

Here is Dylan's view of his early impact on the folk clubs of Greenwich Village: "Actually, attitude had more to do with it than technical ability, and that's what the folk movement lacked. In other words, I played all the folk songs with a rock 'n' roll attitude." Later, he looks at himself from the other side of the room: "The thing about rock 'n' roll is that, for me anyway, it wasn't enough. 'Tutti Frutti' and 'Blue Suede Shoes' were great catch-phrases and driving pulse rhythms and you could get high on the energy, but they weren't serious or didn't reflect life in a realistic way... folk music was more of a serious type of thing. Life is full of complexities, and rock 'n' roll didn't reflect that... If I did anything, I brought one to the other."

Indeed he did. His wordplay

Dylan's life blood on the tracks



Folk rock anthologies: Bob Dylan in 1966 (left) and in 1984 at Wembley. Below, the late Sandy Denny

raised the rock lyric from the simplicity of "The Times They Are a-Changin'" to the sophisticated of Randy Newman and Elvis Costello; his acoustic strumming opened the way for the modal improvisations of the psychedelic era; his ability to catch the winds of social change made it vital for every subsequent rock performer - from Sanny and Cher through Johnny Rotten to Steven Morrissey - to strike an attitude; he bequeathed to David Bowie and countless lesser men the idea that pop stars could surround themselves with rumour and mystery.

In various comments here, Dylan seems to agree that we are no better off for any of these developments. "Everything is crooked now and all the signs all point the wrong way," he says. "It's like we're living at the time of the Tower of Babel, all our tongues are confused... To the aspiring young songwriter I say disregard all the current stuff, forget it, you're better off reading John Keats, Melville, listen to Robert Johnson and Woody Guthrie."

Anthologies such as this invariably present long-term admirers with a difficult and expensive decision. To them, what use are more copies of the best-known versions of "Blowing in the Wind", "The Times They Are a-Changin'",

he later unveiled himself as an electrified rocker to a chorus of dismay from his less flexible fans.

Since there is no apparent aesthetic or chronological scheme to this compilation, Dylan's commentary is left to provide the thread. His unexpectedly vivid powers of recall, frequent displays of affection (particularly towards John Lennon and Jimi Hendrix), quiet humour, sharp analysis and general awareness make one look at him afresh, leading to the surmise that he will not run completely dry since his last wholly satisfying album, 1975's *Blood on the Tracks*.

In this respect it may be significant that a song called "Every Grain of Sand", written and recorded in 1981 for the most poorly received of his religious albums, burns in this collection of flame that makes some of the better known million-sellers look rather dim.

Sandy Denny was one of those long-haired girls whose presence in the folk clubs of the mid-1960s was almost entirely due to Dylan's long-distance charisma. Hers was a sadly short career, taking wing when she joined the fledgling Fairport Convention in 1968 and ending with her death in a domestic

accident 10 years later at the age of 30.

Dylan's "Tomorrow is a Long Time", recorded in 1972 for her second solo album, and "Knocking on Heaven's Door", captured at a club performance two years later during her second spell with Fairport Convention, are among the 43 songs of this boxed collection, almost half of them previously unreleased.

They range from voice-and-piano versions of new songs informally recorded at her home to a fully orchestrated arrangement of "Whispering Grass", and from her tentative first recording with the Strawbs to the exuberant humour of a duet with Linda Thompson in an "Every Sisters" version of "When Will I Be Loved".

She was never a completely reliable artist, but her voice had a genuinely original quality, at once plaintive and sensual, youthful and grave. No other singer of her type could have brought such intuitive feeling and musician's skill to Fotheringhay's "The Banks of the Nile", one of the performances by which history will judge the British folk-rock movement and which draws the listener into its enchanted tapestry as surely as it did 15 years ago.

Richard Williams

HOLIDAY TELEVISION AND RADIO

By Peter Waymark



Stars on the screen: Angela Lansbury with David Niven in *Death on the Nile* (BBC1, today); Alan Hale, Eugene Pallette and Errol Flynn in *The Adventures of Robin Hood* (BBC1, tomorrow) and Ben Kingsley in *Gandhi* (BBC1, tomorrow)

Bring out the old to see in the new . . .

Another year, another spate of classic films on TV. This is the connoisseur's guide

TODAY

MACBETH (1948)
BBC2, 4.05-5.55pm
Orson Welles's brave and fascinating attempt to tackle Shakespeare in 23 days on a tiny budget. Highly stylised, visually inventive film dominated by Welles himself as the tragic hero.

BRONCO BILLY (1980)
ITV, 6.30-8.45pm
Clint Eastwood directing himself in a likeable modern Western with the accent on comedy and nostalgia. He plays a former show salesman trying to save an ailing Wild West Show and getting involved with a New York heiress.

THE FAR COUNTRY (1954)
Channel 4, 7.15-9pm
Fine, tough Western with James Stewart and Walter Brennan as cattlemen up against badle John McIntire during the Klondike Gold Rush. One of many fruitful collaborations between Stewart and director Anthony Mann.

DEATH ON THE NILE (1978)
BBC1, 7.55-10.10pm
Handsome version of the Agatha Christie whodunk about a murdered American heiress with Peter Ustinov as Hercule Poirot and an all-star cast of suspects including Bette Davis, Mia Farrow.

*** DON GIOVANNI (1979)**
Channel 4, 9pm-12.35am
Joseph Losey's controversial treatment of the Mozart opera which ambitiously tries to reconcile an essentially theatrical form with the resources of cinema. With Ruggero Raimondo in the title role and Kiri Te Kanawa.

THE WRONG MAN (1956)
BBC1, 11.15pm-1am
Alfred Hitchcock's sombre and compelling excursion into semi-documentary, based on the true story of an unassuming double bass player (Henry Fonda) wrongly accused of a hold-up.

TOMORROW

THE LADY FROM SHANGHAI (1948)
BBC2, 1.55-3.20pm
Irish adventurer Orson Welles ensnared by *l'arume fatale* Rita Hayworth and manipulated by her, crippled husband. Uneven, disjointed but engrossing thriller invested by Welles the director with characteristic bravado.

THE ADVENTURES OF ROBIN HOOD (1938)
BBC1, 3-4.40pm
Errol Flynn and his Merrie Men in Hollywood spectacle at its best, a dashing kaleidoscope of galloping horses, clashing swords and zinging arrows.

THE BRIDGE ON THE RIVER KWAI (1957)
BBC2, 4.40-7.15pm
David Lean's polished epic about the tensions between British soldiers and their Japanese captors in a Burmese prison camp, with a sharply etched performance by Alec Guinness.

*** GANDHI (1982)**
BBC1, 7.15-10.30pm
Richard Attenborough's carefully crafted and sumptuously mounted biopic of the little man in the kilt, knitted together by an extraordinary performance from Ben Kingsley.

SERPICO (1973)
BBC2, 10.30pm-12.40am
Al Pacino as a New York cop with a conscience, battling against corruption in the force. Convincing recreation of a true case, atmospherically directed by Sidney Lumet.

MONDAY

GREEN FOR DANGER (1946)
Channel 4, 2.35-4.15pm
Al Pacino as a New York cop with a conscience, battling against corruption in the force. Convincing recreation of a true case, atmospherically directed by Sidney Lumet.

CHIMES AT MIDNIGHT (1986)
BBC2, 3.45-5.35pm
Orson Welles's boisterous, funny and ultimately touching portrait of Falestaf, drawn from the Shakespeare plays, shot hand-to-mouth in Spain. Memorable support from John Gielgud (as Henry IV) and Margaret Rutherford (Mistress Quickly).

*** THE BLACK STALLION (1979)**
BBC1, 7-8.55pm
From the Francis Ford Coppola studio, a beautifully photographed story of a boy and his horse which gives lie to the claim that they don't make good family films any more.

*** RAGTIME (1981)**
BBC2, 9.10-11.40pm
Czech expatriate Miles Forman's loosely constructed adaptation of the E. L. Doctorow novel of America in the 1900s, rich in period detail and with chirpy cameos from the veterans James Cagney and Pat O'Brien.

CONFESS (1953)
BBC1, 11.45pm-1.20am
Downbeat Hitchcock thriller.

NEW YEAR'S DAY

WATERLOO ROAD (1944)
Channel 4, 2.35-3.25pm
Soldier John Mills losing his wife to wide boy Stewart Granger in wartime London.

THE HAPPIEST DAYS OF YOUR LIFE (1950)
Channel 4, 3.25-5pm
Sparkling screen version of John Dighton's stage farce about a girls' school having to muck in with a boys' school.

THE FRONT PAGE (1974)
BBC2, 8.15-9.55pm
The third film version of the famous newspaper comedy, with Walter Matthau in splendid form as the scheming editor. Jack Lemmon's reporter is a worthy foil.

*** ROCKY II (1979)**
BBC1, 9.55-11.50pm
A virtual re-make of *Rocky*, with Sylvester Stallone repeating his charismatic portrayal of the second-rate boxer who tries to topple the world champ.

ANIMAL CRACKERS (1930)
BBC2, 10.35pm-12.10am
Early Marx Brothers picture, often betraying its stage origins but full of devastating one-liners.

THURSDAY

HORSE FEATHERS (1932)
BBC2, 11.10pm-12.15am
A college football match is the catalyst for one of the Marx Brothers' wildest and funniest romps, with even the musical interlude failing to disrupt the manic torrent of fun.

FRIDAY

MONKEY BUSINESS (1931)
BBC2, 11.15pm-12.30am
The Marx Brothers as ship's stowaways, trying to pass themselves off as Maurice Chevalier.

The prime time nativity play

TELEVISION

Scheduled inconspicuously between *The Benny Hill Show* and a disaster movie, *L'Enfance du Christ* (Monday, 9.15-11pm) is a rare slice of ITV prime time culture.

Not often does the people's network surrender to nearly two hours of oratorio, but let us be properly grateful. From Anthony Burgess out of Bertoz, and following the Holy Family's flight into Egypt, it is a production of handsome images and dramatic staging.

Richard van Allan sings Herod, Fiona Kimm is Mary, William Shimmell is Joseph and Benjamin Laxon the Ishmaelite Father. The music is played by the English Chamber Orchestra, conducted by Philip Ledger.

Penyborth (BBC2, today, 8.45-10.25pm) breaks new ground as the first Welsh language programme to be screened on the BBC network with English subtitles. It recreates the true story of the burning of an RAF camp near Penllithor by Welsh Nationalists in the 1930s.

Ben Kingsley, whose *Gandhi* gets its television premiere tomorrow (see Films on TV, left), can also be seen on



Political puppet: Mrs Thatcher, as seen in Spitting Image

Monday as George Eliot's *Silas Marner* (BBC1, 10.10-11.45pm). It is another of those costume dramas that television does so well, with Cotswold locations and support from Freddie Jones, Patrick Ryecart and Jenny Agutter.

Ian Holm and Judi Dench are becoming almost as much of a double act as *The Two Ronnies*. *The Browning Version* (BBC1, Tues, 9.20-10.35pm) sees them playing husband and wife for the third time this year, in a new production of Terence Rattigan's evergreen about a des-

pised classics master on the verge of retirement.

Still on drama, there is a two-parter from French television on the life and loves of the writer, Colette (BBC2, Thurs and Fri, 9-10.30pm). She is played from middle to old age by Macha Meril, helped by the make-up artist from *The Elephant Man*, Christopher Tucker. *The Dynasty* cast is joined on Friday (BBC1, 8.10-9pm) by Barbara Stanwyck and Charlton Heston.

Talking of which, *Dynasty's* new Fallon, the British-born actress Emma Samms, turns up in *Barry Norman's Guide to American Soaps* (BBC1, today, 10.25-11.15pm), a watchable if unsurprising venture with contributions from Larry Hagman, Linda Gray and Stephen Ford, son of former President Gerald.

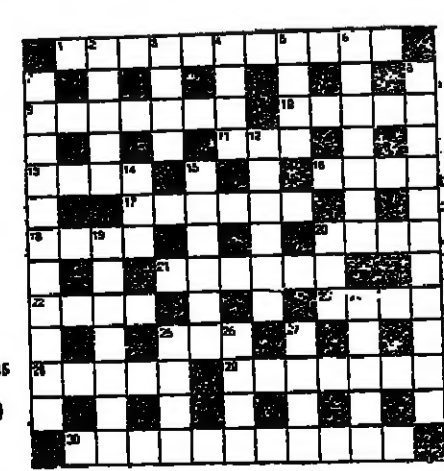
A more nostalgic look at popular entertainment is BBC2's salute to the cinema newsreels, *Around the World in Seven Minutes and Four Times* on Saturday (Tues, 3.45-4.35pm).

Connoisseurs of outrageous comedy can feast on two new offerings from *The Comic Strip* (Channel 4, Wed, 11-11.45pm and Thurs, 11-11.40pm) and *The Second Best of Spitting Image*, repeated golden moments from the puppet show (ITV, today, 10.35-11.35pm).

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 835)

Prizes of the New Collins Thesaurus will be given for the first two correct solutions received on Thursday, January 2, 1986. Entries should be addressed to The Times Concise Crossword Competition, 12 Cole Street, London WC9 9YT. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday, January 4, 1986.

- ACROSS
- 1 Tolerant (4,7)
 - 9 Insult (7)
 - 10 Ingenious (5)
 - 11 Mineral spring (3)
 - 12 Siva's consort (4)
 - 13 Tunny (4)
 - 14 Dormant (6)
 - 15 Jewel (3)
 - 20 Pavement edge (4)
 - 21 Hold together (6)
 - 22 Nonsense poet (4)
 - 23 Impudence (4)
 - 25 Jewel (3)
 - 28 Taxi driver (5)
 - 29 Shoulder tag (7)
 - 30 Without pity (11)
- DOWN
- 2 Edible animal organs (5)
 - 3 Arab sailing boat (4)
 - 4 Social insects (4)
 - 5 Forum home (4)
 - 6 Gourmet (7)
 - 7 Trading world (11)
 - 8 Walk about (11)
 - 12 Indulge (6)
 - 14 Class (3)
 - 15 Serves lightly (6)
 - 19 Walk unsteadily (7)
 - 20 Barrel (3)
 - 24 Map book (5)
 - 25 Rotating disc (4)
 - 26 Muddle (4)
 - 27 Drag (4)



SOLUTION TO No 834

ACROSS: 1 Dunes 5 Office 8 TIR 9 Dimple 10 Centre 11 Ours 12 Punitive 14 Sundae 17 Skinny 19 Cacheport 22 Pale 24 Cinema 25 Assume 26 Nut 27 Embark 28 Excuse

DOWN: 2 Union 3 Exposed 4 Steeple 5 Organ 6 Foist 7 Caravan 13 Ink 15 Uranium 16 Ape 17 Satiated 18 Impasse 20 Hyena 21 Flank 23 Lumen

THE WEEK AHEAD



FILMS

PRESS GANG: Greta Scacchi stars with Gabriel Byrne and Denholm Elliott in *Defence of the Realm* (PG), a punchy British thriller about the politics and morals of Fleet Street, vigorously directed by newcomer David Drury and with David Putnam as executive producer. Odeon Haymarket (01-830 2771) from Fri.



CONCERTS

STRING FELLOW: Hu Kun, the 22-year-old Chinese violinist who won the 1985 City of Paris Menuhin Competition, appears with Sir Yehudi in a programme of Bach and Vivaldi. Hu Kun is making his first visit to Britain after a promising career on the Continent. Barbican Centre (01-638 8891), tomorrow, 8pm.



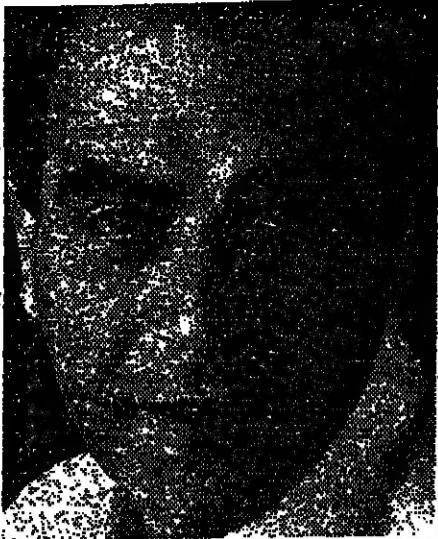
OPERA

FACTORY HAND: David Freeman is the man behind the Opera Factory's exuberant and stylish productions of rarely performed and new works. His much-lauded *La Calisto* is revived on Mon and from Jan 6 the company is presenting *Hell's Angels*, by Nigel Osborne. Royal Court Theatre (01-730 1745).



JAZZ

IN THE RITZ: Bertice Reading made a belated impact in London several years ago in an otherwise ill-fated musical devoted to the songs of Leibler and Stoller. In cabaret, singing standards and the blues, this diminutive but powerful singer should be sensational. The Ritz, Piccadilly, London (01-493 8181), Tues.



THEATRE

SUCHET TOUCHÉ: David Suchet brings to London his acclaimed portrayal of Iago in Terry Hands's production of *Othello*, first seen at Stratford in the autumn. With Ben Kingsley in the name part and Niamh Cusack, of the famous Irish acting family, as Desdemona. Barbican (01-628 8795), previews from Thurs, opens Jan 7.



TELEVISION

JUDI'S VERSION: Judi Dench, recently seen as Noel Coward's Mrs Edgell and currently working on a new production of Ibsen's *Ghosts* is becoming a frequent visitor to the small screen. On Tuesday she plays Millie Crocker Harris, wife of the retiring schoolmaster in *The Browning Version* (BBC1, 9.20-10.35pm).

THE TIMES CHOICE

GALLERIES

OPENINGS

FILM & STRIP: The Kettles Yard touring exhibition on contemporary British comic strips has come to London. Steve Bell, Biff and Christine Roche head a cast of cartoonists and animators. Air Gallery, 6 & 8 Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (01-278 7751), From Fri.

SELECTED

YOLANDA SONNABEND: Costumes and sets for the ballet productions by Sir Kenneth MacMillan and film (*The Tempest*) by Derek Jarman as well as paintings by an artistic Jill of all trades. Serpentine Gallery, Kensington Gardens, London W2 (01-402 6075).

KURT SCHWITTERS: The most comprehensive display of work by the German painter, collageist, poet and performer ever assembled. Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1 (01-821 1313).

HALLELUJAH HANDEL: The 300th anniversary of the birth of the composer, with paintings, sculpture, engravings, musical instruments and scores. National Portrait Gallery, St Martin's Place, London WC2 (01-930 1552).

THE HUMAN STORY: Billed as "an exhibition that took 35 million years to put on", it charts the evolution of man up to the present day and beyond. Commonwealth Institute, Kensington High Street, London W8 (01-602 0702).

OPERA

ROYAL OPERA: John Copley's revived production of *La coccia di Figaro* tonight at 7.30pm and Tues at 7pm. Jonathan Summers takes



the title role with Arno Söfje von Cramer (above) as the Cherubino. Sir Colin Davis conducts. Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1058).

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA: John Copley's production of Handel's *Julius Caesar* tonight, Tues and Fri at 7pm. Christopher Robinson leads a strong cast. Sir Charles Mackerras conducts. Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-836 3161).

OPERA NORTH: Today at 2.15 and 7.15pm David Pountney's

production of Rimsky-Korsakov's *The Golden Cockerel*. Puccini's *Girl of the Golden West* can be seen on Thurs at 7.15pm; and a handsome *Traviata* returns on Fri at 7.15pm. Grand Theatre, New Briggate, Leeds (0532 459351).

THEATRE

IN PREVIEW

LES LIAISONS DANGEREUSES: Christopher Hampton's adaptation from the novel by Laclos, first published in 1782. Two aristocrats conspire to corrupt an innocent young girl. Howard Davies directs. The Pit, Barbican, London EC2 (01-628 8795/638 8891), Thurs, Fri, Jan 4, 6, 7. Press night Jan 8, in repertory.

OPENINGS

BEATRIX AND SIGMUND: Keith Sturges's imagined dialogue between Beatrix Potter and Sigmund Freud on Lake Windermere in 1921. In which they debate the meaning of *The Tale of Peter Rabbit*. Latchmere, 503 Battersea Park Road, London SW11 (01-228 2620), Opens Mon.

BRECHT ON MAGIC: First seen at the Edinburgh Festival this year, Ian Saville's show makes political theatre out of a combination of magic tricks, ventriloquism and theoretical discussion. Described as "...penetrating and witty - great fun", by *The Scotsman*. Gate Theatre Club, 11 Pembroke Road, London W11 (01-229 0705), Opens Wed.

SELECTED

THE DUCHESS OF MALFI: Ian McKellen is superb as the equivocal harridan Bosola in a grand revival of Webster's Jacobean shocker. With Edward Retherbridge, Jonathan Hyde, Eleanor Bron, Sheila Hancock and Roy Kinnear. Lyttelton (01-928 2252), in repertory.

OUT OF TOWN

BIRMINGHAM: Mother Goose: Danny La Rue, Lionel Jeffries, Isla St Clair, in a typically well-gowned production. Alexandra (021 643 1231), Opens Mon. No part Wed.

MANCHESTER: Jack and the Giant: Trevor Peacock's musical fantasy without inappropriate modern trappings, but with music and various circus tricks and illusions. Mervyn Willis directs. Royal Exchange (061 833 9933), Until Jan 4. No part Wed.

FILMS

OPENINGS

SILVERADO (PG): Writer-director Lawrence Kasdan attacks the western with four drifters confronting a town full of badasses. With Kevin Kline, Scott Glenn, John Wood. From Fri at the Leicester Square Theatre (01-930 5252).

FIRE FESTIVAL (15): Arawakan and striking Japanese film by Mitsuo Yanagimachi, describing in graphic

detail the battle between traditional life-styles and modern civilization in a small coastal town. From Fri at the ICA Cinema (01-930 3647).

BLACK NARCISUS (15): Deborah Kerr (below) experiences problems of the heart and mind in a Himalayan convent. One of the most potent and beautiful films in the Powell-Pressburger canon, made in 1947. From Fri at the Electric Screen (01-229 3694).



SELECTED

BACK TO THE FUTURE (PG): Overlaid fantasy from the House of Spielberg with an engaging central idea. Michael J. Fox stars as the modern teenager whisked back to 1955 when fashions - and his parents - were far different. Empire (01-437 1254).

AGONY (PG): Eleni Klimov's powerful portrait of Russia in revolutionary turmoil, with a virtuoso performance from Alexei Petrenko as Rasputin and ingeniously used archive footage. Camden Plaza (01-435 2443), Chelsea Cinema (01-351 3742).

DANCE

SADLER'S WELLS ROYAL BALLET: Opens Tues with a lively programme: Ashton's *Les Patineurs*, Fokine's *Petrushka* and a Petipa suite from *Paquita*. The repeats Wed, Thurs; then *Coppelia* with Sandra Madgwick and Ian Webb in the leads (Fri). Sadler's Wells (01-278 8916).

ROYAL BALLET: Giselle this afternoon and Fri, *The Nutcracker* (Mon, Wed) and the season's first *Manon* (Thurs). Covent Garden (01-240 1066).

LONDON FESTIVAL BALLET: Two performances of *The Nutcracker* every day except Sun. Festival Hall (01-928 5191).

SCOTTISH BALLET: Performances of *The Nutcracker*, today and Mon (both matinee and evening), Tues matinee only, Fri matinee and evening. Theatre Royal, Glasgow (041 331 1234).

CONCERTS

LAST BACH: Ralph Kirshbaum plays the Solo Cello Suites Nos 1, 3 and 6. Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore Street, London W1 (01-935 2141), Today, 7.30pm.

KING'S CONSORT: "Christmas in Venice" is presented with instrumental and vocal music by Monteverdi, Gabrieli, Buonamante, Bassano and others. Wigmore Hall, Tomorrow, 7.30pm.

STRAUSS NEW YEAR: Pieces by the various members of the Strauss family are played by the London Symphony Orchestra under John Georgiadis. Barbican Centre London EC2, Tues and Wed, 7.45pm.

BEETHOVEN CYCLE: The Beethoven cycle by Peter Frankl (piano), György Pauk (violin) and Ralph Kirshbaum (cello) continues. Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-628 3191), credit cards 01-628 8800, Thurs, 7.45pm.

PAUL/LSO: James Paul conducts the London Symphony Orchestra in Borodin's *Polovtsian Dances*, Rimsky-Korsakov's *Scheherazade*, and Augustin Dumay solos in Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto. Barbican Centre, Thurs, 7.45pm.

LESLIE HOWARD: This outstanding pianist offers Beethoven's "Moonlight" Sonata, a large Chopin group, Schumann's Arabesque and Tchaikovsky's Sonata Op 37. Wigmore Hall, Fri, 7.30pm.

ROCK & JAZZ

GEORGE MELLY: A surrealist's view of classic jazz and blues. Tonight and Mon-Jan 4, Ronnie Scott's Club, 47 Firth Street, London W1 (01-439 0747).

LINDISFARNE: This north-eastern band's annual reunion is now a well loved Christmas institution. Tonight, Harrogate Centre (0423 64430), tomorrow, Birmingham Odeon (021 643 6101); Mon, Hammersmith Odeon (01-748 4081).

BILLY BRAGG: Bragg's abrasive moan is supported by Mark Wangford and Frank Chickens. Tonight, Birmingham Odeon (021 643 6101); tomorrow, Hammersmith Odeon (01-748 4081).

IN CAHOOTS: Hugh Hopper (bass guitar) and Elton Dean (saxophones) are joined by Peter Lemer (keyboards) and Pip Pyle (drums), all under the leadership of guitarist Phil Miller. Tomorrow, Bass Clef, 35 Coronet Street, London N1 (01-729 2476).

PIZZA EXPRESS ALL STARS: Mellow mainstream jazz. Tues, Pizza Express, 10 Dean Street, London W1 (01-438 8722).

PHOTOGRAPHY

THE JAPANESE GARDEN: Colour photographs which explore the many aspects of Japanese gardening from the formal and informal to the miniature and the symbolic. The exhibition, which forms part of the Barbican's Japanese Festival, also explains the importance of the Tea Garden as well as the use of stone and water over several centuries. Barbican Centre, Level 5, London, EC2 (01-638 4141), From Tues.

BOOKINGS

FIRST CHANCE

SCOTTISH OPERA AT EDINBURGH: Now booking for 1986 season. Box Office, King's Theatre, 2 Leven Street, Edinburgh (031 229 1201).

BARBICAN LUNCHEON CONCERTS: Booking now open for third international series including performances by Peter Donohoe, Peter Frankl, Nigel Kennedy and James Galway. Jan-June. The Barbican, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-638 8891).

LAST CHANCE

UNFAMILIAR BURNE-JONES: Stained glass cartoons and other rarely exhibited work. Finishes tomorrow. City Museum and Art Gallery, Chamberlain Square, Birmingham (021 235 2824).

For ticket availability performance and opening times, telephone the numbers listed. Theatre: Tony Patrick and Martin Cropper; Galleries: Sarah Jane Checkland; Photography: Michael Young; Dance: John Percival Films: Geoff Brown; Concerts: Max Harrison; Rock & Jazz: Richard Williams; Opera: Hilary Finch; Bookings: Anne Whitehouse.

The new man in Downing Street



Another actor is to play a leading role in politics.

Paul Eddington

tells Peter Waymark about life at the top

I thought I should wear a suit to meet a Prime Minister, even a fictional one. I was right. Paul Eddington was impeccably turned out, even if it was only a rehearsal. No jeans and sweat shirt for him but a smart jacket, crisp flannels and well shined shoes. Jim Hacker would approve.

"I am often asked if I base Hacker on a real person," says Eddington. "The answer is I do. That person is myself. He is as vain and greedy and easily swayed as I am. The main difference is that Hacker can bend to his civil servants. I lack his flexibility and for that reason would never make a successful politician."

Hacker has left behind him a none too brilliant career at the Ministry of Administrative Affairs and made it to Number 10. Sir Humphrey Appleby, the infinitely devious and usually vicious bureaucrat, has gone with him. *Yes Minister* is about to become *Yes Prime Minister*: Hacker's apotheosis.

"I think he has marginally grown in confidence," Eddington reckons, with seven of the eight episodes already in the can. "There are brief moments when he asserts himself and lays down the law. But then, almost immediately, he regrets it." Sounds very much like the same old Jim.

Eddington is cautious in his assessment of real prime ministers. "Harold Wilson was clever - and I don't mean that in a derogatory sense. I suppose I should say I admire Mrs Thatcher's inflexibility but that may not be a long-term asset if she is inflexible about the wrong things. Fly about Denis Healey. I would like to have seen him as PM. Something to do with stature and breadth and weight. Jim Hacker is awfully light."

Since then Eddington's roles have been curiously reversed. On television it has been mainly comedy, in the theatre *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* for the National, *The Browning Version* and Stoppard's *Jumpers* - and "there are not many laughs in those."

Eddington lives the cliché about being one of Britain's busiest actors. Sometimes too busy, such as when he was playing George in *Virginia Woolf*, hardly off stage for three and a half hours; having to rehearse all over again when the Labour Party but a much stronger feeling has been pacifism. When the Attlee government insisted on retaining conscription I ceremoniously

burned my card and dropped it out of the window." Eddington is 58 and has been an actor since he was 17. It took him 30 years to get to the top. Only once was he out of work for a long period and he built up a successful career steadily in the West End and on television. But it was a far cry from being recognized in the Tube.

Then came the television sitcom, *The Good Life* with Penelope Keith, Richard Briers and Felicity Kendal. "It came about," he says, "because John Howard Davies, who was the producer and director, refused to live in an ivory tower. I had become rather stereotyped, playing comic parts in the theatre and serious ones on television. I had tried for TV comedy and been rebuffed. But John Howard Davies gave us an award - presumably for the cleanest show on the air - and Mrs Thatcher insisted on making the presentation. So clearly we had failed. But I think we will get a lot closer this time."

As to Eddington's future beyond Hacker, he admits that "I have only nibbled at the edge of the classics. I ought to go back to Shakespeare. I played Brutus twice and got endless fascination from it."

"One of the advantages of being an actor is that as some roles pass by, others become available. As *Romeo* sinks in the west, so *King Lear* rises in the east. I suspect I would be a bit lightweight for *Lear*. But it would be a wonderful challenge and I do find it difficult to resist a challenge."

The final episode of *Yes Minister* is being repeated on Monday (BBC1, 8.10-10.10pm) and *Yes Prime Minister* starts on BBC2 on January 9 (9-9.30pm).

ARTS DIARY

Done away with it

On the rebound from a major row with Cannon Films which has robbed her of her most cherished screen role, Faye Dunaway has turned for consolation to the stage. Directed by Harold Pinter, she will play the lead in the Hampstead Theatre production of *Cries and Whispers* by the American writer, Donald Freed. If the play is successful it will transfer to the West End from where, no doubt, Miss Dunaway will make a significant gesture back to the Hollywood moguls who, she says, ruined four years of her life.

Earlier this month Miss Dunaway made a noisy and tearful break with Cannon after two screenplays written by her from Tom Kempinski's play *Dues For One*, about a virtuoso violinist struck down by multiple sclerosis, were turned down. Although the film was to go ahead, she was told her husband, former Fleet Street photographer Terry O'Neill, would not be allowed to direct.

Big break

The film world was abuzz this week in expectation of the imminent arrival of Marlon Brando to take part in talks with United British Artists on a new production. In the end, the Fat One did not arrive and it is likely that UBA executives will go to see him in Los Angeles in the new year. The company is said to be planning its biggest film yet, an historical extravaganza with Brando at the centre. The signing would be a fantastic coup for the British film industry: Brando has not made a film in more than five years.

The festive season has not gone entirely smoothly at the Garrick, the roccoco palace which some argue is London's finest club. Celebrated guests found the doors barred one night before Christmas as they tried to leave accompanied by an untidy flurry of activity from the club's servants. A mink coat was missing which led the killing thespians, awaiting the police, to speculate as to which West End production it is now appearing in.

Bright future

Sarah Brightman has landed another West End starring role in *The Phantom of the Opera*, the new piece by her husband, Andrew Lloyd Webber, which opens next year. The title-song, with Sarah and Steve Harley duetting, will be released in the new year - no doubt another resounding Lloyd Webber success. Just as well, then, that the



Lloyd Webber and Brightman maestro is reminded he has feet of clay. Seen last week conducting an orchestra in front of a 15,000 audience in Verona for the Classical Aid concert, Lloyd Webber appeared - and was - as nervous as a kitten. Totally unused to conducting, he was told brusquely by the singer Gwyneth Jones: "Just get out there and wave your arms about."

Cutting edge

The chill of a new year is almost upon us and further cuts can be expected in 1986. Early predictions include a new Arts Council idea - the Reducing Bursary. With this, the Royal Shakespeare Company will give us *One Gentleman of Verona*, the National Theatre will produce *The Cherry Orchard*, and the Old Vic will win sponsorship from a soap manufacturer for a production of *Madame*.

Christopher Wilson

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